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THE TIMES

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Penalty shoot-out dashes World Cup hopes

England's lions keep fighting to the bitter end

BY JOHN GOODBODY, ADRIAN LEE AND DAMIAN WHITWORTH

ENGLAND plunged out of the World Cup last night when they were beaten on penalties by Argentina, who now go on to meet Holland in the quarter-finals.

In a match of immense drama that was watched by an estimated 28 million on British television and more than a billion viewers round the world, England played with brilliant desperation when they were reduced to 10 men after David Beckham had been sent off in the 47th minute. David Batty and Paul Ince missed the crucial penalties for England after David Seaman had saved an Argentina spot kick.

The England coach, Glenn Hoddle, said his team "had fought like lions".

Argentina had taken the lead through a 6th minute penalty converted by Gabriel Batistuta. Alan Shearer equalised with a 10th minute penalty and Michael Owen put England 2-1 ahead with a superb solo goal in the 16th minute. Javier Zanetti made the score 2-2 just before half-time. Before full-time England had a goal disallowed for a handball.

The game had added tension because of memories of the Falklands war and the Diego Maradona handled goal which ended England's hopes of winning the World Cup in 1986.

Despite a decision by the St Etienne authorities not to ban alcohol, fears of a conflict between the 15,000 England fans and 12,000 Argentina fans who travelled to the town proved groundless.

Dermot Chalmers from Luton, said: "There has been lots of friendly rivalry but it has all been good fun. I think we both respect each other's teams and that has helped."

But while the steps of the Hotel de Ville had been covered in hundreds of cater-wauling Scots all day last week, yesterday there were only a handful of Englishmen sitting there watching the world go by.

A couple of young women made a show of stripping to their swimming costumes and running through the spray of the town square fountains. Although yesterday afternoon's match between Romania and Croatia was shown on the big screen in the Place Jean Jaures last night's game was not on, for fear that the screen might become a focus of trouble.

Fans were dismayed at the asking price of £800 for black market tickets. Later the price dropped to £250. Those with cash still to spare were paying £5 to have three lions tattooed (temporarily, it was claimed) on their bodies.

Fans faced at least two security checks at a series of barriers set up on approach roads.

There were a few minor disturbances in the early hours but later a spokesman for Jean-Yves Audouin, the Prefect of the Loire region, said that England fans had generally behaved well in the face of some provocation.

One English supporter was arrested allegedly hitting a train conductor and a young Frenchman in Saint Etienne was sentenced to a year in prison for assault on Monday night, the heaviest sentence so far.

Seven English fans were detained including one described as a Category C hooligan.

The Queen, who was due to attend a dinner party, admitted that she did not know what time the match was on. During a visit to Dundee, she was asked if she would be cheering England on, and told ITN: "Well I think one should. They're going to have a very difficult job, I think."

England's 1966 manager Sir Alf Ramsey wished the team "every success" from his hospital bed in Ipswich where he was recovering from a stroke.

In Buenos Aires, tens of thousands of Argentineans, waving blue and white national flags converged around a giant obelisk and the nearby avenues of the city centre to watch on giant screens. Some burnt effigies of Baroness Thatcher and set fire to the Union Flag.



DENIS DOYLE · AP

Kim Milton Nielsen, the Danish referee dismisses David Beckham, for retaliation, reducing England to ten men

Fire strands fans at Stansted

BY JOANNA BALE

A GROUP of 80 supporters heading for St-Etienne had to watch the match at Stansted airport after their flight was delayed for three hours.

The fans, including members of the official England Supporters Club, were due to travel on a 5.10pm Ryanair flight that would have arrived at St-Etienne an hour before kick-off. But the runway was closed for an hour when a small fire broke out on board an aircraft.

Sean Pierce, 35, a lawyer from North London, who paid £500 for his ticket and was travelling with four friends, said: "Everyone is devastated. We were hoping we would be shunted forward in the queue so that we might get there for some of the match." One man had travelled from Brisbane to London on Friday for the match. Martin Strution, general manager of Stansted airport, said: "We are obviously sympathetic to the football supporters who have probably paid an awful lot for their tickets and will be making provisions for them to watch the match in the lounge. I am afraid there is nothing more we can do."

Nobody was available from Ryanair for comment.

Champions make easy progress

The defending Wimbledon singles champions, Pete Sampras and Martina Hingis, progressed to the quarter-finals with straight-sets wins.

Sampras beat Sebastien Grosjean while Hingis beat Tamarine Tanasugarn. Mark Philippousis will test Sampras today ... Pages 42, 43

Soggy June

June failed by 0.2 in to become the wettest this century, the Meteorological Office said. Five inches (125.1mm) of rain fell across England and Wales ..... Forecast, page 24

TV & RADIO 46, 47
WEATHER 24
CROSSWORDS 24, 48
LETTERS 21
OBITUARIES 23
SIMON JENKINS 20
ARTS 36-38
CHESS & BRIDGE 39
COURT & SOCIAL 22
SPORT 39-46, 48
HOMES 34
LAW REPORT 32

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Eyre report damns the Royal Opera

BY DALYA ALBERGE AND STEPHEN FARRELL

THE Royal Opera House was yesterday accused of arrogance, deeply flawed planning and a failure to dispel an elitist image created by years of mismanagement.

The criticism came in a 149-page report on opera and dance in London by Sir Richard Eyre, former director of the Royal National Theatre.

Sir Richard said that in his six-month study he was unable even to analyse properly the finances of the ROH, which is homeless because of a £214 million redevelopment of its Covent Garden site, because it did not have a business plan for when it reopens.

The report — peppered with allusions to Austen, Dickens, Brecht and Chekhov — was commissioned by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, after a series of high-profile resignations of board members, including chief executives, within a short period. Sir Richard, however, rejected Mr Smith's initial proposal to house the Royal Opera, Royal Ballet and English National Opera under one roof at Covent Garden.

He also called for an increase of up to £60 million of public money for the arts in general and for funds to allow the ROH to increase access through education and cheaper tickets.

Peter Ainsworth, the Shadow Culture Secretary, said of the report: "It's long on words and very long on aspirations. It's fair in its analysis of what's gone wrong in the past, but it is weak on specific recommendations about the future."

It could not have been an easy read for Mr Smith. Sir Richard offers no ready answers or firm proposals, leaving the final decisions to the

Continued on page 2, col 5

Simon Jenkins, page 20
Mary Allen, page 36

US fighter fires on Iraqi site

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AN AMERICAN F16 fired a missile at an Iraqi radar site yesterday, after the first hostile action against coalition forces for 20 months when four RAF Tornados were "locked on to" as they flew south of Basra. Fearing a surface-to-air missile launch by the Iraqis, the strike aircraft, accompanying the Tornados, fired. The apparent provocation by the Iraqis required "aggressive defensive measures", said a spokesman for US Central Command.

British sources said that it was "fairly common" for the Iraqis to switch on their radars but normally they turned them off in seconds. This time the radar remained locked on, and it was considered too risky to ignore the potentially hostile act. It was unclear whether the site was hit.

"Simple error", page 15

Paramedics called to help Paula Yates

BY CLAUDIA JOSEPH

PAULA YATES, the former television presenter, was involved in a health scare yesterday.

Miss Yates, whose lover Michael Hutchence committed suicide, was visited by paramedics but was not taken to hospital.

Yesterday London Ambulance confirmed that they were called to an address in Bayswater, Central London, but refused to reveal the nature of the call.

In a statement, a spokesman said: "London Ambulance Service central ambulance control received an emergency 999 call at 11.45 hours this morning.

"An ambulance was dispatched to an address in Courtnell Street, London W2, but did not convey any person to hospital."

The scare is the latest in a long line of troubles to hit the star, who hosted the television shows *The Word* and *The Big Breakfast*.

She is now divorced from Bob Geldof, the rock musician, who is the father of her daughters Fifi Trixibelle, now 15, Peaches, nine, and Pixie, seven.

Heller Toren, her mother, said last night : "I have no news at all. I have not had any calls. I don't know what's happened."



Yates: string of troubles

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Ward closure reversed on eve of Dobson visit

BY ANDREW PIERCE
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HEALTH chiefs yesterday acted to save the Government from acute embarrassment by reprieving a children's ward in the hospital where the NHS was founded.

The threat of closure was suddenly and mysteriously lifted five days before Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, was due to visit the Greater Manchester hospital to mark the service's 50th anniversary.

A rare legal instruction was passed down to the local health trust, with the full knowledge of Mr Dobson, to abandon the closure of a 24-bed ward and a special babies' unit at Trafford General Hospital.

Nurses were planning to join a demonstration of mothers and children by linking hands around the hospital, in full view of television cameras, as a host of dignitaries led by Mr Dobson took their places.

The protest threatened to turn the Health Secretary's stage-managed and high-profile visit, to mark Labour's most historic achievement, into a public relations fiasco.

Aneurin Bevan met the first NHS patients at the then Park Hospital 50 years ago to the day of Mr Dobson's visit. Bevan chose the hospital because of its modern facilities. Some of the patients he met will be in the audience for Mr Dobson's speech.

The closure plan was mooted in a consultation document launched by Salford and Trafford Health Trust on June 1. But yesterday the children's facilities were given an unexpected reprieve and the document was withdrawn on the orders of the National Health Service Executive North West.

Health officials said yesterday that it was a rare event for such a document to be withdrawn so abruptly on the legal orders of the regional body.

But a spokesman for the NHS executive denied that Mr Dobson's visit had any bearing on the decision. "It is a coincidence," he said. "There would have been a potential for embarrassment for Mr Dobson. No one knows what would have happened. But the fact that Frank Dobson is visiting the hospital on Sunday is nothing to do with the reversal of the closure proposal."

Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, seized on the controversy and accused ministers of ordering the decision to spare their blushes on Sunday. She said last night: "I cannot help feeling that this legal orders procedure is so rare that it raises questions as to whether ministers took the decision themselves.

"Frank Dobson is afraid to face the

Continued on page 2, col 3

27
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The sick who wait for treatment on Westminster benches

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

When the Commons is not boring, it is fatuous; when neither fatuous nor boring, it is pernicious. Health Questions yesterday demonstrated all three.

If MPs knew how unimpressed the nation must be by their monotonous, finger-jabbing, "it's all *your* fault"/"No, *you* were to blame" exchanges, they would surely cease.

Especially when, as yesterday, the subject is close to *every citizen's anxieties*, the habit of chanting stale accusation and counter-accusation is an insult. Apparently we are celebrating the NHS's 50th birthday; but — just in case the Labour Party should take any credit — the dreary Ian Bruce (C, S Dorset) jumped up to crow that the Tories had been in power for 35 of those 50 years.

Barry Sheerman (Lab, Huddersfield), bidding fair to be the oldest poodle in town, asked ministers to confirm that the NHS used to "let a lot of people down because the *Tories were running it*".

There is something especially depressing about an ageing crawler; a younger man is at least partially excused by ambition.

There followed a tiresome exchange about whether or not Nye Bevan, architect of the NHS, was treated privately during his final illness — Tories making the charge, Labour shouting "lies!".

For those who find this silly there was worse. David Winnick (Lab, Walsall N) thought "the Tories should apologise" for having *opposed the introduction of the* NHS half a century ago.

Imagine where this would lead. Should the Tories apologise for Suez? Is Mr Blair to apologise for once opposing British membership of the European Union?

Should the voters apologise for voting for him then? Are the Liberal Democrats to show contrition for Lloyd *George's 1920s honours auction*? Should the whole House sign a general confession for the sins of their fathers? Mr Dobson called the Tories "witless loons".

But, just when you despair of the possibility that the Chamber could rise above this silliness, it does.

All at once, the Commons gives an administration a *mighty shove in a seriously* stupid direction. On yesterday's showing, there is a real danger that, stung by a hail of MPs' taunts, the Government are resolved to bust a gut — or break the Bank — in a desperate attempt to wipe out hospital waiting lists at breakneck speed.

The Health Shadow Ann Widdecombe renewed her assault, accusing Labour of breaking promises. Her squeaky protests made little apparent headway against an implacably mellow Health Secretary: Dobson's mastery *of put-down reminds me uncannily* of Prime Minister James Callaghan's swatting-aside of Margaret Thatcher 20 years ago.

He betrayed discomposure, though. First, Dobson seems unable to look at Widdecombe when she talks to him. And he and his ministers have started to blurt out extravagant promises.

Challenged to say when Labour would overtake Tory spending increases on Health, the junior minister Alan Milburn replied "soon".

Dobson told us he had *"wonderful news! Waiting* lists are coming down! The supertanker has turned!". It had better have, now! All the tugs in the Treasury fleet must *divert there fast. Let* every health professional whose work does not reduce a waiting list before tomorrow lunch, tremble. Let the Chancellor weep.

There's one thing more disturbing than a politician refusing to be pinned down, and that's when he *is* pinned down.

Labour cheered. "Have I," remarked Diogenes Laertius *to friends as the crowd* cheered him wildly, "said something foolish?"

Ill Hague takes his time to recuperate

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM HAGUE will be absent from Prime Minister's questions today for the second time in a week because of continuing health problems.

Doctors advised the Tory leader, who had a routine operation last Thursday on his sinuses, to recuperate at home. Senior members of the Shadow Cabinet also urged Mr Hague to stay away from Westminster until fully fit. They fear that a premature return to duty could result in Mr Hague being forced to sign off sick again.

Peter Lilley, the Deputy Leader, will for the second time fill Mr Hague's place at the dispatch box against Tony Blair this afternoon. He will also chair this evening's Shadow Cabinet meeting.

John Major will also return to frontline duties for the first time since stepping down as leader and stand in for Mr Hague at a dinner at the Café Royal tomorrow night. Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, has also deputised for Mr Hague, speaking at a Tory fund-raising dinner for 300 guests in Yorkshire.

Sebastian Coe, his chief of staff, stood in at the annual meeting of Mr Hague's Richmond Conservative Association last weekend, and an alternative speaker is being sought for a speech which Mr Hague was due to make at the weekend to a new group of businessmen opposed to the single currency.

Mr Hague's mother, Stella, and his wife, Ffion, are taking it in turns to nurse the Tory leader back to full health at his home.

The Tory leader has not been seen in public since Thursday, June 18. By last Thursday, when his symptons failed to improve, he was admitted overnight to a local hospital where re he underwent the sinus surgery. His absence through sickness from the Commons is the longest recorded for a party leader since Sir Winston Churchill four decades ago.

A spokesman for Mr Hague said that he would return to full-time duties at the beginning of next week. "He was eager to return for Prime Minister's Questions this week but has decided to follow his doctor's advice to rest for several more days in Yorkshire," he said.

"His doctor was concerned that he made a full recovery from the operation and did not risk any further infection by returning to work prematurely. He is recovering well from the operation. He is now working from home and is in constant touch with his office."

Mr Hague, according to his aides, was yesterday showing the first tentative signs of recovery. Last night he watched the England versus Argentina game on television.

The statement reflects the first stirrings of unease about any public relations damage the protracted absence could cause. One senior Tory MP said: "It is right that William has to stay away until he gets better. We have been full and frank about it. Any jibes are grossly unfair."



Aneurin Bevan arriving at Park Hospital, Trafford, on July 5, 1948, to inaugurate the National Health Service

Ward closure reversed at 11th hour

Continued from page 1

protest. That is scarcely the sort of courage Nye Bevan would have exhibited.

"I wonder what Nye Bevan would have said if he met Frank Dobson on Sunday?"

The Health Secretary was briefed last week about his forthcoming visit and was made aware of the planned protest.

Campaigners also lobbied the National Health Service Executive North West. They achieved an unexpected victory yesterday, just days before Mr Dobson's visit.

The spokesman added: "I can confirm that the decision was taken by the regional office of the Department of Health with the knowledge of Mr Dobson.

"He was not at all embarrassed about the prospect of a demonstration at the hospital."

Troubleshooter for NHS danger zones

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A HEALTH service troubleshooter with wide powers is to take over management of NHS trusts where the quality of patient care is dangerously low.

News of the appointment follows the outcry over the deaths of 29 children who had heart surgery at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, which led to two doctors being struck off.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, will today announce the creation of the post of Director of Health Improvement. The director, to be appointed next year, will head a commission that will identify and act on failings in clinical standards. He or she will send in "hit squads" of doctors, nurses and managers to replace existing staff at hospitals that fail to reach national standards.

The director, who will come from a clinical background, will encourage health workers to complain to him or her about poor standards of care via a direct telephone "hot line".

The commission, which will have its own secretariat, will have to visit every NHS trust and primary healthcare trust in the country on a rolling programme every three to four years. Where there were known problems, inspectors could go into the hospital more often.

In a speech in London today to mark the 50th anniversary of the NHS, Mr Dobson will say: "The Government is not prepared to leave standards in the NHS to chance." A consultation document on quality standards, *A First Class Service*, to be published tomorrow, will disclose that an annual report will be published on progress in raising standards in the NHS. It will also confirm all clinicians will have to take part in external national audits of medical care.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tory peers' war-chest

Tory backbench peers are building a war-chest to campaign against Labour plans to reform the House of Lords. More than 700 letters were sent out yesterday to Tory peers and leading businessmen asking for contributions. After initial research the campaign will focus on raising public awareness of the Lords' current role as revising chamber and independent check. Organisers say the campaign is not designed to defend hereditary peers against their imminent expulsion from the Lords. The campaign was launched by Baroness O'Cathain, a businesswoman, Lord Denham, the former Tory Chief Whip, and Lord Feldman, former chief of the Tory party's voluntary wing, the National Union.

TV man found dead

The body of a cameraman who vanished while on a river-rafting expedition for BBC2's *Video Diaries* has been found, his family said. Chris Reeves, 36, from Fulham, southwest London, was in the River Kalix in Sweden, near the border with Finland. His German travelling companion, Marcus Gaertner, 27, had been found drowned already.

Solicitor complaints rise

The number of complaints against solicitors rose by 7 per cent last year, reaching the equivalent of one for every three of the 71,000 practising in England and Wales. Ann Abraham, the Legal Services Ombudsman, said the rise had been even sharper in recent months and the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors could soon be "overwhelmed".

Record £19.8m Monet



A painting by Claude Monet of his garden at Giverny was sold for £19,801,500 at Sotheby's in London last night. It was the highest price paid for a Monet at auction. *Waterlily Pond and Path by the Water* was the star lot in an auction of Impressionist and modern art.

Regret over rape quote

The novelist Fay Weldon said that she regretted talking about rape in an interview in which she was quoted as saying it "isn't the worst thing that can happen to a woman". The 66-year-old writer said that she should have emphasised to the *Radio Times* reporter that the "worst thing" was, in fact, death.

Labour abandons sleaze case against councillors

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

LABOUR'S crusade against allegations of council sleaze in Glasgow collapsed yesterday after a 14-month internal investigation.

In a humiliating climbdown for the party in Scotland, Labour confirmed that it had *decided to drop its case* against Pat Lally, Glasgow's Lord Provost, and his Depute, Alex Mosson.

The men were suspended for 18 months in January for alleged breaches of party rules, but their suspensions were overturned in February at the Court of Session in Edinburgh, where they won the right to a judicial review of the party's disciplinary procedures. The judge ruled that the party had failed to outline the reasons for the suspensions or to produce adequate evidence to back them up and hinted that they could be in breach of natural justice.

Yesterday, after months of *deliberation, the party decided* not to contest the judicial review due next week.

The sleaze allegations emerged in February 1997 when Bob Gould, the council leader at the time, alleged that political support was being bartered for council trips abroad. Nine other councillors were suspended too but all were reinstated.

Mr Lally, 73, said yesterday that he was delighted with the outcome of the investigation, but had been "saddened" by the behaviour of the party he had served for 48 years. "I am 100 per cent in favour of rooting out sleaze and corruption, but we have to make sure *it exists before we get around* to stamping it out."

He added that the party had been unable to find evidence of wrongdoing in Glasgow. "You would think they would be jumping for joy."

A Labour spokesman said that the party would not apologise to the councillors. "We remain committed to high standards in public life," the spokesman said.

Emissions to be cut in Europe

BY NICK NUTTALL

BIG cuts in fumes from cars, vans and diesel vehicles have been agreed across Europe.

From January 2000, emissions from petrol cars and light vans must be 30 to 40 per cent lower; diesel cars must be 50 per cent cleaner. The new *laws also require the harmful* sulphur content of petrol to be cut by 30 per cent in diesel fuel and by 70 per cent in petrol. Benzene, a known cancer-causing chemical in petrol, will be cut by 80 per cent.

The agreement, between the Council of Environment Ministers and the European Parliament, requires further cuts of 50 per cent on all vehicles after January 2005.

Royal Opera report

Continued from page 1

Secretary of State. Mr Smith passed the problem back to the opera companies, offering a month's consultation. On seeing the report, however, he rejected recent calls by the ROH board to double their annual grant by up to £15 million, saying that the request could not be considered until "they have got their house in order".

Sir Colin Southgate, *the head of EMI whom Mr Smith recently made chairman of the* Royal Opera House, said he agreed with most of the criticisms: "The financial situation is deeply flawed. It took months to get the financial figures out of the place. It is absolutely true." He said he agreed with the allegations of elitism and confirmed that the uncertainty over the ROH's future meant they had been unable to "raise a penny".

Sir Richard expressed surprise that the new ROH board has not submitted a business plan for the re-opened Covent Garden theatre and no artistic or business plan for the studio theatre. One recipient of Arts Council funds said: "We've all had to go through the same costly hoops for business plans three years ahead. To read that these buggers got £78 million without a business plan is a total flagrant breach of funding rules."

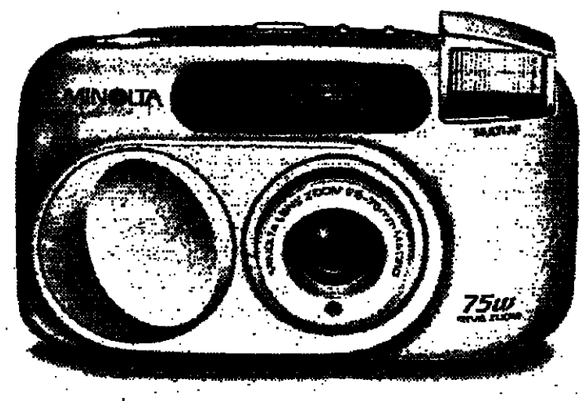
Paul Daniel, music director of English National Opera, said the report was "helpful". He said that they are already working on many of the recommendations, but emphasised that many of them would cost money.

Mr Smith refused to commit the government to more spending on the arts, saying it depended on the outcome of the public spending round.

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How day at the races cost the Queen £11,843

Alan Hamilton reports on efforts by Buckingham Palace staff to curb the royal travel budget

A DAY at the races cost the Queen £11,843 last year — the amount charged by Railtrack to take the Royal Train 21 miles from Victoria to Tattenham Corner for the Derby. The cost of £564 per mile compares unfavourably to the normal day-return fare of £10 (there is no first class).

Other members of the Royal Family are considerably more frugal. Both the Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Margaret regularly use their pensioner's railcards, saving one third of the standard fare, to travel first class to official engagements. Earlier this month the Duke, Chancellor of Cambridge University, travelled to and from a graduation ceremony for £43.40; the Princess caught a train to Brighton to open a hostel for £22.60.

The figures are contained in the first annual accounts published by Buckingham Palace since it took direct control of the royal travel budget last year. While the Government gave a grant-in-aid of £19.4 million, by rigorous cost-cutting the Palace spent £17.3 million. The accounts list all journeys made by the Royal Family costing more than £500, a total of 404 for the year, and reflect attempts to drive costs down.

The biggest saving was in the aircraft of 32 Squadron which flew the Prince of Wales to Paris to collect his wife's body and bring it back to London: the cost was entirely recovered from the Princess's life insurance policy. But for the use of the Royal Train to take her sons from London to her burial at Althorp, Northamptonshire, Railtrack charged £6,659.

Sir Michael Peat, Keeper of the Privy Purse and head of the royal finances, admitted yesterday that, at £1.1 million a year, the Royal Train was probably the least cost-effective mode of royal travel, despite savings of £700,000 in the past year.

"It is expensive, but it is also very convenient. It allows the Queen to attend an evening engagement in London, get a good night's sleep and arrive next morning in the heart of a provincial town fresh and ready for another full day."

There were no immediate plans to scrap the Royal Train, Sir Michael said, but its future was being closely examined. Members of the Royal Family now travelled much more frequently than before on normal scheduled trains. But the Queen does not use a pensioner's railcard.

"The Queen always has an entourage; we block-book a whole section of a coach and the pricing structure is different. But, like any large user of services, we are always looking for discounts for bulk buying," Sir Michael said.

Big savings have also been achieved by the decommissioning of the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, which, towards the end of her active life, was costing £9 million a year, and by replacing the two ageing Wessex helicopters of 32 Squadron with a single modern Sikorsky S76. Some of the savings from *Britannia*, however, are offset by the Royal Household bearing some of the capital cost of aircraft in 32 Squadron. The squadron's big-gest users are government ministers and senior Forces chiefs.

By far the biggest single items are flights to undertake engagements abroad, usually by chartering an aircraft from British Airways to accommodate the inevitable entourage. The travel bill for the Queen and the Duke's ill-starred visit to India and Pakistan last year was £375,000.

Buckingham Palace officials estimate that the total annual cost of the monarchy is now £45 million, compared with £54 million in 1991.

The figure does not, however, take account of the huge security cost of protection and policing, but it does compare well with the £80 million it costs to run the British Library for a year, the £75 million for the Welsh language television channel S4C, or the £64 million to run the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council — three comparisons produced by the Palace yesterday.

ROYAL SPENDING ON TRAVEL FOR THE WEEK

DATE	ROYAL	TRANSPORT/ROUTE	REASON FOR TRAVEL	COST
June 1	Prince Edward	HS 125/RAF Northolt–Glasgow –RAF Northolt	Attend World Badminton Championships as Patron of the Scottish Badminton Union	£2,138
June 2	Duke of Edinburgh	BAe 146/RAF Leuchars–Luton	Visit Whipsnade Zoo to open new Asian elephant facility	£4,943
June 2	Duke of Edinburgh	Wessex helicopter/Whipsnade Zoo –Buckingham Palace	Attend Trinity Tide Dinner	£1,248
June 3	Princess Royal	Wessex helicopter/Gatcombe Park –RAF Brawdy–Gatcombe Park	Visit 14th Signal Regiment, Pembrokeshire	£5,853
June 4–5	Prince of Wales	Royal Train/Euston–Middlesbrough	Open palliative hospice, visit Hall Garth School and other engagements in Teeside	£13,799
June 4	Princess Margaret	BAe 146/RAF Northolt –Swansea–RAF Northolt	Open Gwalia Housing Group Foyer and other engagements	£3,218
June 4	Duke of Kent	Wessex/Kensington Palace–Portsmouth–Kensington Palace	Attend D–Day ceremonies and other engagements	£2,363
June 5–6	Duke of Edinburgh	Scheduled flight/Heathrow –Washington–Heathrow	Visit Washington DC for Marshall Plan Anniversary and other engagements	£12,154
June 5	Princess Margaret	BAe 146/RAF Northolt –Guernsey–RAF Northolt	Open NSPCC Centre and other engagements	£2,470
June 5	Duke of Gloucester	HS 125/RAF Northolt –Warton–RAF Northolt	Open new technology buildings at Kirkham School, housing association development	£1,488
June 6	The Queen	Wessex/Buckingham Palace –Hastings–Buckingham Palace	Visit new shopping centre, College of Art and Technology, Shipwreck Heritage Centre and other engagements	£2,140
June 6	Prince of Wales	BAe 146/RAF Leeming –RAF Lyneham	Return from engagements in Ripon and surrounding area	£3,265
June 7	The Queen	Royal Train/Victoria –Tattenham Corner	Attend the Derby	£11,843
June 7	Duke of York	HS 125/RAF Northolt–Leeds –Inverness–RAF Northolt	Attend Yorkshire Business Conference and various engagements in Inverness	£4,809
			TOTAL	£71,731



Outfits favoured by the Princess are worn by featureless white mannequins while a portrait of her in profile hangs above books of condolence

Visitors are left chasing shadows in Spencer's haunting temple to Diana

BY DANIEL MCGRORY

IT LOOKS more like a mausoleum than the celebration of the life of Diana, Princess of Wales, that Earl Spencer promised.

The first photographs released by the earl ahead of today's opening of his Althorp estate to the paying public show mementoes of the Princess shrouded by subdued lighting. Her disembodied voice echoes off the brick floors and outfits favoured by the Princess adorn white plaster mannequins.

On one wall of the museum are the flickering images of Diana as a child at Althorp taken from her family's private video collection. In a glass case alongside are Spencer family albums with hitherto private photographs of the Princess as a girl.

The first 2,500 visitors paying £9.50 will follow her life in photographs, ending with footage taken from the Princess's funeral. There are reports that touts have been offering tickets for today's opening at up to six times face value.

The exhibition, which opens on what would have been the Princess's 37th birthday, is housed in a 260-year-old Palladian-style coach house, renovated at an estimated cost of £1 million.

The museum was designed by Russhied Ali Din whose previous work included working for retail names such as Conran, Habitat, Ralph Lauren and Next. Mr Din, 42, who was also involved in the refurbishment of Gatwick airport, was personally chosen by the earl.

A spokesman for the earl said: "He chose Russhied Din because of the modern and clean lines of his designs. He hoped that would reflect the contemporary woman that Diana had become and put her in a modern context."

The earl has taken many mementoes from his sister's former home at Kensington Palace, including her silk and taffeta Emanuel wedding dress, despite criticism of their use for an exhibition. The 26ft train runs the length of the glass display case and is accompanied by photographs of the wedding.

The Princess's outfits were chosen to show the wide range of styles she wore. Alongside each there is a photograph of her wearing the outfit together with a brief description of the designer and a record of when she wore it. At the far corner of the room is a bookcase which contains some of the many hundreds of books of condolence signed by the public. Many have been opened to show some of the tributes.



The Princess's silk and taffeta wedding dress

A card of condolence sent to Prince Harry and Prince William, drawn by children from Little Heath primary school in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, is used as motif on some of the souvenirs sanctioned by the earl.

Directly above the books of condolence hangs a massive portrait of the Princess in profile.

The museum is divided into seven themes: independent woman, public works, impact on the world, funeral, wife and mother, historical links with the monarchy and place among Spencer women.

Next door to the room dedicated to her childhood is a collection of the Spencer jewellery laid out on red velvet. Most of it was worn by previous generations of the Spencer family.

Prince William and Prince Harry have not seen the completed museum, though they are reported to have misgivings about some of the exhibits.

They did not visit their mother's grave as expected this week. It is believed that a date could not be found when Lord Spencer was present and when the Princes could have been assured complete privacy.

The estate has been overrun with staff working on both the recent memorial concert and those putting finishing touches to the museum.

The exhibits include the first draft of the earl's funeral oration which was widely interpreted as criticising the Royal Family.

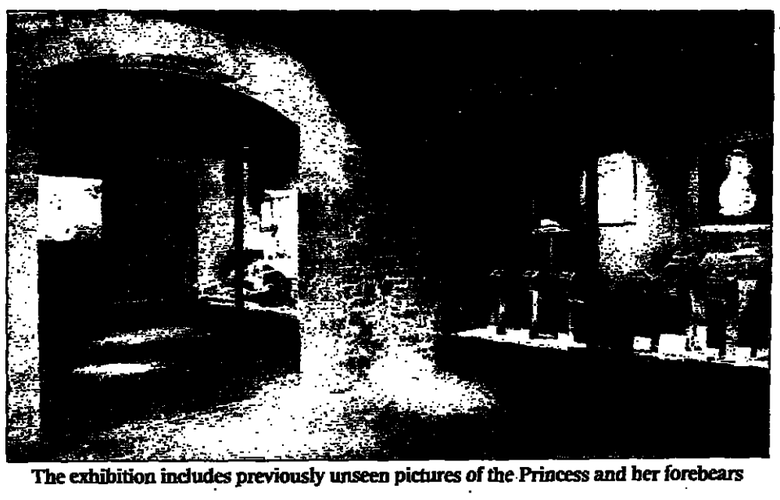
Visitors will not be allowed on to the island where the Princess is buried. A spokeswoman appealed for visitors to treat the estate with respect and decorum.

"Everything is ready and in place. The gates will open at 10am," she said. "All we would ask is that people behave respectfully and remember that they are viewing a grave."

Elaborate arrangements have been made to ensure traffic runs smoothly and to keep cars out of the neighbouring village of Great Brington by imposing a five-mile "exclusion zone".

Althorp officials and police accept that traffic congestion around the estate will be inevitable. Police have called on anyone not visiting Althorp to steer clear of the area.

The earl has said he will give a breakdown of how much the summer renovation has cost.



The exhibition includes previously unseen pictures of the Princess and her forebears

£10,000 award to secretary sacked over 'crying for Princess'

BY A CORRESPONDENT

A SECRETARY who was sacked after allegedly crying for a week over the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, won more than £10,000 damages for unfair dismissal yesterday. Managers at Kingstonian Football Club considered Jeanne Cummins, 38, an embarrassment because she wept in the office over the Princess's death, and they labelled her neurotic because she joined the grieving crowds at Kensington Palace for the funeral. She also sent a sympathetic fax to Capital Radio and wrote poems and letters to the Princess's memory, her boss claimed.

Miss Cummins, of Barnes, south-west London, said: "This is not about the money, this is a moral victory. By criticising me for my grieving, Kingstonian Football Club have insulted me and the name of Princess Diana.

"Yes, I was devastated by her death and I would never deny that. The whole nation was upset. The week after the tragedy everyone was subdued. But to say I cried every day for a week is a lie. I was upset, but I still got on with my job. I am satisfied that justice has been done."

The industrial tribunal at Croydon ruled that Chris Kelly, director of the non-league Vauxhall Conference club, had used Miss Cummins's grief as an excuse for dismissing her.

The club's manager, Geoffrey Chapple, had told the tribunal: "Following the death of Princess Diana she became extremely distressed.

"She would spend the day crying. It was very embarrassing. And I felt I could not give her any comfort because this would set her off again." The tribunal was told that the single mother wrote poems and letters to the Princess's memory and "constantly talked about her".

Mr Chapple said: "She was quite devastated; it was almost as if it was a personal bereavement. It started with the tears. Everyone was upset; we all were, but there comes a time when you have to get on with your life.

"She got worse after the funeral; she could not get over it. She was crying in the office. The whole nation was upset, but you have to get on with your life." The three-man panel said the real reason Miss Cummins was sacked was that she had complained that she was being sexually harassed by a director, Robert Wolfson. The chairman, David Milton, said: "Kingstonian FC's case was one of continued blanket denials, coupled with the assertion that the applicant's behaviour was inappropriate."

In particular around the time of the death of the Princess, she had become "extremely emotional and appeared to overreact to the whole business in an uncontrolled fashion, and exhibited other examples of neurotic behaviour".

The tribunal heard that Miss Cummins was repeatedly nagged by Mr Wolfson to have sex. She claimed the married man had pleaded with her to go for a weekend in Paris.

She had told the tribunal Mr Wolfson's advances had made her £12,000-a-year job difficult from the start. Miss Cummins, who has a seven-year-old son and now works part-time as a beauty consultant, was awarded £10,684 for loss of earnings and emotional stress.



Grief: Jeanne Cummins



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Crowd storms the retreating Lawrence five

By Lin Jenkins

VIOLENCE erupted outside the Stephen Lawrence inquiry yesterday as the five prime suspects left the building beneath a hail of missiles and punches. Some of the five were involved in struggles with protesters as they made their way to a waiting van after finishing their evidence.

After they had been driven away from the hearing at Elephant and Castle, South London, crowd anger turned towards the police. A group of up to 100 youths began throwing bottles, cans and stones at 50 officers who retreated slowly down the road.

One rioter smashed the window of a double-decker bus with a slab of concrete, and several policemen and journalists were hit by missiles before an an edgy standoff was achieved after about ten minutes, although it took more than an hour to disperse the crowd. Suresh Grover, the co-ordinator of the Stephen Lawrence Family Campaign, moved to the front of the crowd and pleaded for there to be no further violence.

The atmosphere had threatened to boil over for an hour before the five emerged from the inquiry building as a crowd of up to 300 gathered, bringing traffic to a standstill. As the five — Neil and Jamie Acourt, Luke Knight, David Norris and Gary Dobson — left the building shortly before 3pm, the crowd rushed towards them, overwhelming the police cordon. Coffee was thrown over one of the men and another was knocked to the ground as punches and kicks were traded.

Mr Grover said he was hit in the face and added: "This confirms to me that they are nothing more than street fighters. These five suspects have shown no remorse and they can't remember anything."

The five men were all charged at various times with murdering Mr Lawrence, an A-level student, at a bus stop in Eltham, southeast London, in April 1993, but were never convicted. Yesterday they released a statement and said reports in the media had been "twisted and sensationalised" leaving them powerless to put over their case. Their handwritten document began: "In 1993 we were all arrested for the murder of Steven *[sic]* Lawrence, which we all vehemently deny. We do sympathise with Mr and Mrs Lawrence and the tragic loss of their son. We understand their quest to discover what happened to their son and why no one has been convicted of his murder. We have no knowledge of this murder, we were not involved, we did not kill Steven Lawrence."

They complained that, despite three of them having been acquitted and two never having stood trial, "we continue to be portrayed as guilty men".

Neville Lawrence, 51, said he found their sympathy for his position "breathtaking". Speaking on *Channel 4 News*, he said that he was satisfied with the way the inquiry had been conducted and would wait to see whether the Crown Prosecution Service would take further action. Asked about a civil action, he said: "If we are left with no option, we will have to do whatever we have to do."

PAUL HACKETT



From left: Luke Knight, Neil Acourt (partially obscured), behind him David Norris, Gary Dobson at back, and Jamie Acourt throwing a punch

Suspect cleared of different stabbing 'after winks and payment'

By Lin Jenkins

ONE of the prime suspects for the Stephen Lawrence murder was questioned yesterday about his criminal father's influence in ensuring that he was not convicted of a different stabbing.

Days after the Lawrence murder, David Norris, 21, was accused of attempting to murder a white youth using a miniature sword. Michael Mansfield, QC, for the Lawrences, said that, before the case came to court, Mr Norris's father, Clifford, offered £7,000 to the victim to alter his story.

Of that, £2,000 was handed over and spent before the victim, Stacey Benefield, told the police and neglected to alter his version of events. During the subsequent trial, the foreman of the jury approached David Norris outside the court and told him he would be acquitted, it was claimed.

At the trial, the foreman allegedly smiled and winked at him. Mr Norris was found not guilty.

Afterwards, he was approached again by the juror, who said he wanted to make contact about giving him a job. Mr Mansfield said that, for reasons of the Official Secrets Act, he could not give the full details. However, the foreman was at the time on bail, accused of dishonestly handling £23,000 in a stolen cheque fraud. He was related to a criminal named Joey Piles, serving 14 years for drug smuggling.

Clifford Norris is serving eight years for drug and firearms offences. Allegations of murder and the attempted murder were halted when witnesses refused to give evidence, the inquiry has been told. Norris, when arrested at a hideaway in Kent, had an armoury including an Uzi sub-machinegun and loaded handguns. He also had £80,000 in cash.

Mr Mansfield asked David Norris: "I'm going to suggest to you in the clearest terms that your father handed over £2,000 to Benefield. You do know that?" Norris: "Allegedly".

Mansfield: "Did you have £2,000 to pay anybody?"

Norris: "Certainly not."

Mansfield: "Who else would want the case dropped? Can you think of anyone else?"

Norris: "No."

Mansfield: "Can you think of anyone with £2,000 and another £5,000 to follow if the outcome is right? There is only one person with the money — your father."

Norris: "I don't know that."

Mr Norris denied knowing about the jury foreman's behaviour at his trial. He was asked if he knew the name of Sergeant David Coles of the Flying Squad. He said he did not. The inquiry has heard that customs investigators on an undercover drugs operation in 1987 and 1988 spotted the officer on three occasions with Clifford Norris — once just before he disappeared on the run. An internal investigation by the Metropolitan Police did not believe the officer's version of events, but disciplined him only for falsifying his police records.

At his disciplinary hearing, a character reference was provided by Detective Superintendent Ian Crampton, who was the officer in charge of the Lawrence investigation during the first weekend. The officer later appeared as a protection officer for Duwayne Brooks, the chief prosecution witness who was with Stephen Lawrence when he was killed, during the unsuccessful prosecution at the Old Bailey.

Mr Norris was also asked about a claw hammer found at his home. Mr Mansfield held it up by a specially fitted leather strap.

Mansfield: "It can't possibly have an innocent use."

Norris: "Not by the look of it."

Another of the witnesses, Gary Dobson, 23, was asked about what the Acourt brothers were doing when he went to their home in Eltham, southeast London, on the night Stephen Lawrence was murdered. Mansfield: "Were they washing clothes?"

Dobson: "No."

Mansfield: "Was there blood on their hands?"

Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, chairman of the inquiry, stopped the line of questioning, saying a High Court ruling prohibited them from examining the guilt or innocence of the five.

Mr Dobson was asked about the time he pulled a knife on a black colleague at work. It was, he said, a joke. Racist language heard on a surveillance tape was "because I was angry". Asked why, he replied: "Because I was accused of a murder I never committed."



Millfield girl in death fall 'had drink problem'

Pupils tell inquest how they drank vodka and gin cocktails in their rooms, reports John O'Leary

A MILLFIELD schoolgirl who fell to her death from a dormitory roof after celebrating her 14th birthday with vodka had developed a drink problem in her eight months there, an inquest was told yesterday.

Jennifer Gelardi was said to have been shy and reclusive when she arrived at the school, in Street, Somerset, last September. But a roommate said alcohol brought her out of her shell and seemed to make her more popular.

The inquest in Taunton was told that she "would never say no to alcohol", and was almost three times the driving limit when she climbed out of her dormitory window and fell head first on to concrete 30ft below. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

The girl was said to have drunk several cocktails mixed from gin, whisky, vodka and Cointreau with orange juice on the night before she died. On her birthday, she had asked a 17-year-old schoolgirl to buy a litre bottle of vodka, which she drank with a friend in the attic of her all-girls house. The girl, named only as Miss A, admitted using false identification to buy the alcohol. The inquest was told that drinking was rife among pupils at Britain's most expensive school, where boarding fees are £15,000 a year. Boarders would often sneak alcohol in from home or get other children to buy it locally.

Jennifer had started drinking regularly after a party in February, the inquest was told. Weeks later, returning on a ferry from a school trip to St-Malo in France, she became so drunk that she slipped into unconsciousness. A roommate said teenagers would drink regularly. In a statement, the 14-year-old — referred to as Miss F — said: "She usually drank whisky or gin with orange juice. I think Jennifer was developing a drink problem as she would never say no if she was offered."

Another pupil, Miss G, said the morning Jennifer fell, they drank neat vodka in their room. Police later found two half-full bottles of vodka as well as an empty litre bottle.

Millfield has strict rules on alcohol. Pupils aged 17 or over are allowed to go to a sixth-form bar, which serves small amounts of beer or wine on special occasions only. Spirits are banned and younger children can be "gated" or suspended for drinking.

Pupils told the inquest that children would defy the alcohol ban on birthdays or weekends. A 13-year-old girl told Michael Rose, the Somerset Coroner, that there were very few searches of dormitories.

Christopher Martin, who retires as Headmaster this month, admitted that drinking was a problem at Millfield. But he said it was difficult continually to search children's possessions for alcohol as it would "infringe their rights and liberties".

Mr Martin added: "Youngsters of this sort of age have always liked to take risks. I think the record at Millfield is no better or worse than any other." Joanna Eagle, who with her husband cares for the 32 pupils in Johnson House, said that an hour before the girl had died she went to thank them for her birthday card and appeared "perky, lively, smiling and seemed very happy".

The incident on the ferry had been completely out of character.

The school has already said that it plans no changes to pupils' liberties and no disciplinary action would be taken against the two girls who bought the vodka. However, 18-year-olds will have official identity cards.

Matilda Kent, whose 15-year-old son is a day pupil at Millfield, said she was satisfied with the way the school cared for its pupils and had heard no criticism from other parents. "I have asked myself whether I would blame the school if this had been my child, and I honestly don't think I would. I would not want 24-hour surveillance."

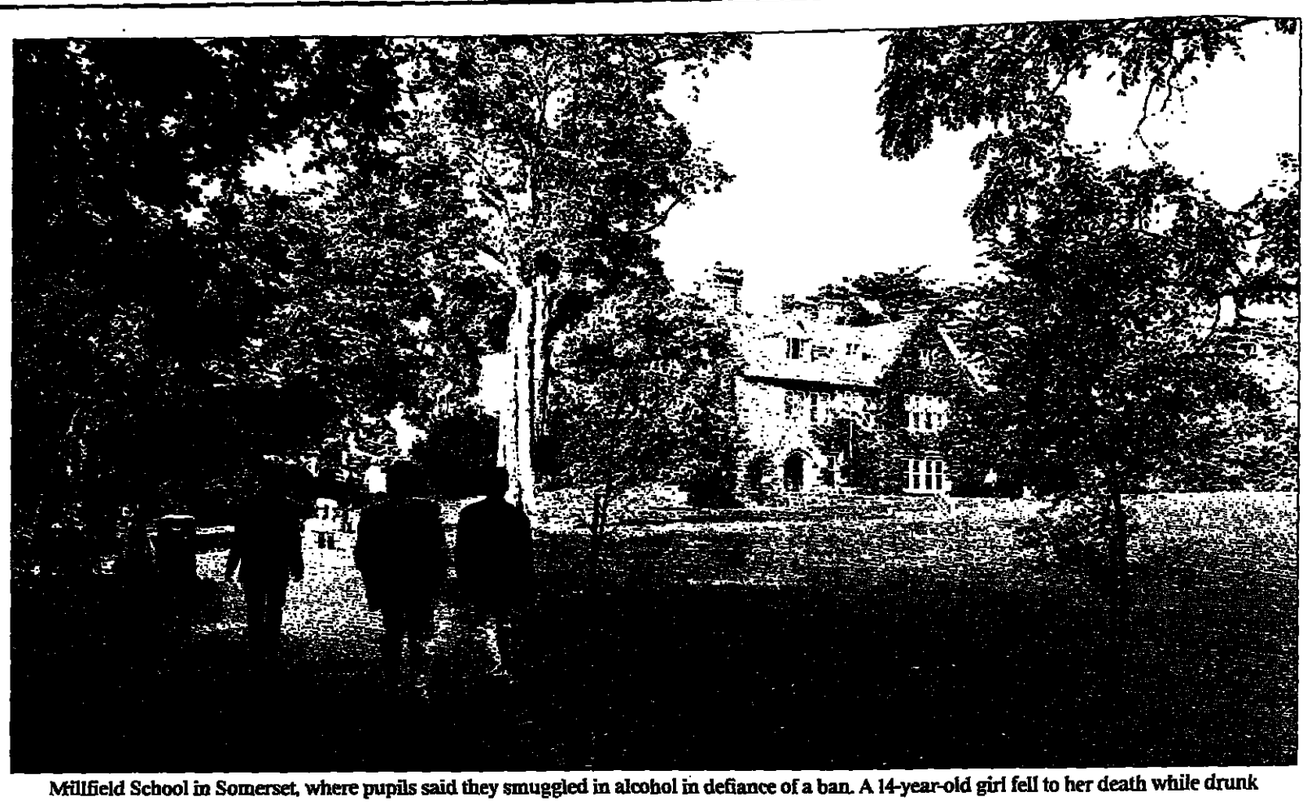
Mr Martin wrote to parents after the accident, explaining that the school had been cleared of blame by safety officers. Millfield was complimented on its pastoral care after an inspection by the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference last year.

The annual conference will receive the report of a working party on alcohol and drugs. Vivian Anthony, the conference's secretary, said: "This is one of the oldest problems we face. There is easier access to alcohol now and more willingness on the part of young people to try it."

Surveys by Exeter University's health education unit suggest that about a third of 14-year-olds drink alcohol regularly, with one in 20 drinking to excess.

Mr Rose told the inquest: "It's very difficult for someone of my generation to hear and understand horrifying accounts of children mixing spirits. Perhaps we should all take a step back and look at whether we are allowing too great freedoms and liberties for our children."

The dead girl arrived at Millfield at the start of the school year when her parents, Anne and Paul, who did not attend the inquest, moved from Jakarta to Singapore. Their 16-year-old son, Tim, is to stay on at the school.



Millfield School in Somerset, where pupils said they smuggled in alcohol in defiance of a ban. A 14-year-old girl fell to her death while drunk

Court gives new job security for mothers-to-be

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A WOMAN who was sacked after falling ill while pregnant won a ruling yesterday that the dismissal was in breach of European Union law. The European Court of Justice said that employers may not fire women from work even after long absences due to pregnancy-related illness.

The case concerned Mary Brown, a driver for Rentokil, who had to stop work in August 1990, two months after becoming pregnant, because of a related illness. Rentokil fired her in February 1991, 26 weeks after she stopped working, because its contract for employees limited absences to 26 weeks. Her child was born a month later.

Mrs Brown unsuccessfully challenged the ruling in the courts and finally appealed to the House of Lords, which referred the issue to the European Court of Justice to interpret the EU rules on equal treatment for men and women.

The European court ruled that dismissal of an employee on the ground of pregnancy, or essentially on the ground of pregnancy, could affect only women and therefore constituted direct discrimination on the ground of sex.

The court had already held that women should have protection against dismissal during maternity leave and yesterday it confirmed that the principle of non-discrimination applied to the whole period of pregnancy.

Lawyers welcomed the ruling. Corinne Aldridge, employment law partner with Wilde Sapte, said: "This sends out the message that employers are going to have to be very careful in the way that they treat pregnant women, irrespective of what their contracts might say."

Stephen Gummer, an employment law solicitor with Beachcroft Stanleys, said: "This ruling ends an important area of debate over whether pregnancy was a protected period or whether employers could treat a pregnant woman in the same way as a sick man."

The law had been uncertain, he said, but the court's ruling ended that uncertainty for employers and employees alike and could bring an end to unnecessary litigation.

"There is still an outstanding area of uncertainty which is what protection women have for pregnancy related illess after they return to work, such as post-natal depression. This ruling could have a knock-on effect on that," he said.

The European court's finding will now be reviewed by the House of Lords. Damages cannot be granted by the court and so will be decided in the British courts.

Mismanagement, snobbery and little communication

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

EYRE VIEW OF ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

SIR RICHARD EYRE'S report on opera and dance in London has the strongest criticism for the Royal Opera House. These are extracts from his 149-page report:

Royal Opera House

The artistic output was praised for maintaining high standards throughout the troubled period.

But reviewing the management structure of the ROH he says: "All too often the situation resembles a First World War battlefield, where the poor bloody infantry are trying to fulfil a strategy about which they haven't been consulted, and whose outcome is simply a matter of wilful optimism or blithe unconcern to its creators. I cannot emphasise too strongly that the endemic lack of communication within the Royal Opera House is the cancer that will destroy the organisation unless it is treated."

The Royal Ballet felt "marginalised" within the Royal Opera House, whose "disregard" for everything but music in its planning left directors with little time to rehearse, adversely affected lighting and design and created the "ethos of the amateur".

On its finances he criticised the ROH's expenditure on expensive outside consultants, which alienated low-paid staff and further disabled an organisation that needed strong leadership from within. He said: "It is essential that the Royal Opera House develops a sense of respect for accountability for public funds."

In some of the strongest passages he criticised the past board for alienating the public by its "triumphalist" receipt of £78.5 million National Lottery money and was damning about snobbery. "There was such a strong social cachet attached to being a member of the Royal Opera House board that membership was seen as being an end in itself and this encouraged board members to be diffident about their responsibilities."

Sir Richard concluded that craftsmen were not overpaid, but artists received more for appearing at the ROH than at the less grandiose English National Opera. However, there were clear differences between the two companies in administration, where ROH costs were double because of significantly higher salaries.

"This may well be indicative of a culture that expects exceptionally high rates of pay for all senior staff, simply because it is the Royal Opera House." He called for an end to the practice of giving an "unusually large" number of free tickets to the great and the good, a "marketing strategy" which he estimated cost the ROH a six-figure sum each year.

Arts Council

Sir Richard widened his range of targets by including the Arts Council. Although Britain had a creative culture that was the "envy of the world", there had been mismanagement and lack of financial accountability within the world of theatre.

"In some cases deficits were accumulated with knowing recklessness and in others with a fatal blend of arrogance, naivete and wilful optimism ... The Arts Council compounded the folly by not offering effective advice, or by exercising sufficient authority to preserve the companies from their excesses of self-mutilation."

The council should demand monthly management accounts from organisations to which it gave money. The decline of funds and respect had "encouraged it to dabble in the shallows of social engineering, sponsorship and marketing initiatives; the business of business rather than the business of art.

"There has been a lack of rigour in the relationship between the Arts Council and its clients, which requires a serious overhaul."

Its relationship with the ROH was "characterised by arrogance on the part of the Royal Opera House and by a lack of assertiveness on the part of Arts Council". The council had also been "subverted" by ROH board members and executives going above its head to lobby directly with ministers and with Downing Street.



Sir Richard Eyre and Chris Smith yesterday

Simon Jenkins, page 20
Leading article, page 21

Fugitive accused of murder 'never hit anyone'

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A FUGITIVE Canadian businessman broke down in tears yesterday as he told a court that he was a thief but not a killer.

Albert Walker, 53, admitted living under a number of aliases after fleeing to Britain in 1990 with four million Canadian dollars he "should not have taken". But he shook with emotion as he denied murdering a man whose identity he had borrowed after paying him to leave the country.

Mr Walker is alleged to have killed Ronald Platt, a former television repair man, by throwing his unconscious body over the side of his yacht, *The Lady Jane*, with a 10lb anchor hooked through his belt. Mr Platt's body was found eight days later when it was caught in a fishing net six miles off the Devon coast.

Asked by his counsel, Richard Ferguson, QC, if he had killed Mr Platt, Mr Walker dabbed his eyes with a tissue and sobbed: "I have never hit anyone in my life, neither have I ever been hit in my life. I am a very passive person. Actually, I am a pacifist and would never go to war although some people might hold that against me.

"Ron Platt was a very nice person and I had no reason to want to kill him or harm him. I only wanted to help him. He was someone I had a responsibility to take care of."

Mr Walker told the jury at Exeter Crown Court that his last meeting with Mr Platt took place ten days before the prosecution alleges that he killed him. The pair had travelled to Devon with the intention of sailing *The Lady Jane* to Essex, where Mr Walker was living with his 23-year-old daughter, Sheena, and her two young children.

He said Mr Platt, who hated small boats, had reluctantly agreed to help him to sail the 24ft yacht, even though he was "frightened of water". After sailing a short distance, Mr Platt had become seasick and scared and Mr Walker had agreed to turn around and abandon the attempt.

The last time he saw Mr Platt, he said, was the following day, July 10, 1996, when he dropped him on the outskirts of Exeter. He said Mr Platt told him he was planning to move to France, where he intended to set up a small business with money the Canadian had given him.

Earlier, Mr Walker described how he set up new identities for himself and his daughter before they fled to England from Canada, where he is wanted on fraud charges.

The trial continues today, when the jury will be taken to see *The Lady Jane*.

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Spacecraft on seven-year search for stardust memories

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

A PLAN to capture stardust from around a comet has been unveiled by American scientists. The spacecraft *Stardust* will take seven years to complete its 3.1 billion-mile journey to the comet Wild 2, on the edge of the solar system.

The probe is designed to catch particles smaller than grains of sand, left over from the birth of the solar system. A camera will take close-up pictures of the comet.

Stardust will cost £125 million and will be the fourth in Nasa's Discovery series, which achieved great success with the *Pathfinder* mission to Mars a year ago. It is the brainchild of Professor Donald Brownlee, of Washington University in Seattle, who hopes to find clues about the solar system's origins in the grains of dust. The grains, travelling up to nine times as fast as a bullet, will smack into a foam panel and become embedded in it.

After *Stardust*'s return, the dust will be sent to various laboratories. Professor Brownlee believes that the particles will be cryogenically preserved interstellar dust left from the birth of the solar system 4.6 billion years ago. Such grains can be found only in the outer solar system, he believes, because heat has destroyed those nearer the Sun.

"We hope to understand how comets were formed and what they're made of," Professor Brownlee said. "We expect them to be the preserved building blocks of the outer planets."

Hundreds of thousands of people will follow the mission with special attention because *Stardust* will carry their names, inscribed on microchips in writing so small that 80 characters would fit into the width of a human hair.

☐ *Mars Pathfinder* found evidence of an ancient world that was warm, wet and possibly hospitable to life long ago. A new mission to Mars will be launched this weekend by Japan. Its *Planet-B* probe is scheduled for lift-off early on Saturday and should be sending back pictures next October.

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Assembly takes the gun out of politics

Members must hand over weapons at door before entering Ulster's new parliament, writes **Martin Fletcher**

NORTHERN IRELAND will for once be setting the pace for the rest of the country today when it becomes the first of the United Kingdom's constituent parts to have its own assembly up and running.

It has been an heroic effort. In just five weeks since the referendum that approved the peace accord, the Province has put together a parliament from scratch. It has not only elected the 108 members, but provided all the infrastructure that a parliament requires.

By late yesterday there were just one or two outstanding details to be settled, such as the title of the elected representatives. "Assemblyman" was too sexist and "Member of the Northern Ireland Parliament" or "MNIP" too cumbersome. "Member of the Assembly" or "MA" would confer on many of the representatives a greater educational prowess than they deserve.

Until it agrees on a permanent site the assembly will meet in the same featureless conference room in the same dreary Stormont Castle Buildings where the accord was clinched in those final, dramatic 33 hours of non-stop talks just before Easter. Outside in the car park yesterday the same ramshackle collection of media caravans and makeshift studios was being hastily reassembled.

For obvious reasons there are no Union flags or emblems in the chamber — just three wall clocks and a few green plants. The desks have been rearranged from a square to a horseshoe and the parties are expected to sit in alphabetical order, which means that the Progressive Unionist Party — representing the loyalist paramilitary Ulster Defence Association — will be next to Sinn Fein.

The assembly will be serviced by a 30-strong secretariat that has rushed out a handbook for all members. This says that they should stagger their visits to the restaurant because it is too small, that the bar will be open from "12 noon until required" — and that they must leave their personal protection weapons at the entrance. Several of the Province's politicans carry guns themselves or have security men who do. The handbook contains details of salaries — £60,000 for the First Minister, £45,000 for lesser ministers such as Gerry Adams and £29,000 for backbenchers. Those with 2,000cc cars can claim 53p a mile, and those with bicycles 6.7p a mile. They are entitled to overnight subsistence allowance of £98.30 if in London on business or £25 if staying with friends.

There is a hastily assembled library containing Hansard from the 1830s, Irish parliamentary debates and most British and Irish newspapers — but not Sinn Fein's *An Phoblacht*.

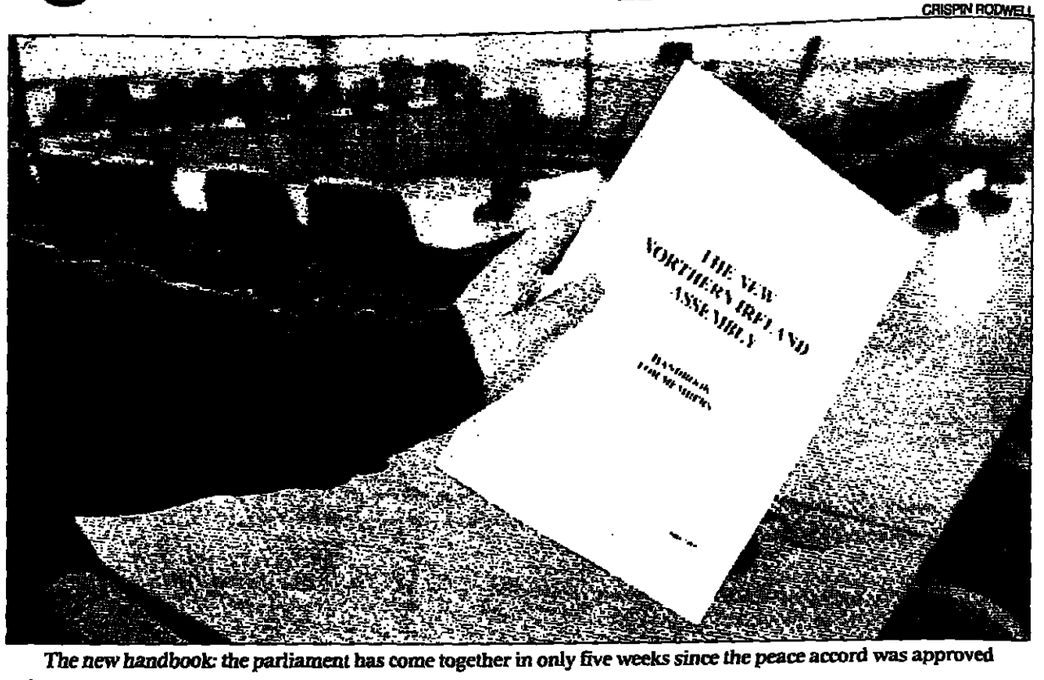
Unconfirmed rumours suggest that the inaugural meeting was delayed a day so as not to clash with England's World Cup match. It starts today at 2.00pm, giving Unionists time for their July 1 Battle of the Somme commemorations in the morning. There will be no ceremony to mark the historic opening and no oath of allegiance to the Queen. Members will simply sign in.

The assembly will meet in shadow form until Westminster formally devolves powers to it early next year, but it will take its first votes today. It will elect a Speaker — probably Lord Alderdice of the centrist Alliance Party; a First Minister — probably David Trimble, although Unionist opponents of the peace accord will try to block him; and a Deputy First Minister — probably John Hume though the long-serving MP, MEP and SDLP leader was still equivocating yesterday. The first meeting will also be fraught, with almost as much animosity between the rival Unionist factions as between Unionists and republicans. Mr Trimble has no margin for error. He needs a Unionist majority to be elected First Minister. On paper he has 30 votes to 28.

2.4 Members are asked not to bring Personal Protection Weapons into the building. Storage and safekeeping of Personal Protection Weapons can be arranged with the Security staff at the entrance to the Block. Others entering the building, with the exception of Members, will be asked to pass through a metal detector.

A request on guns from the members' handbook

CRISPIN RODWELL



The new handbook: the parliament has come together in only five weeks since the peace accord was approved

Drumcree casts its shadow over historic day

BY MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

ULSTER lurched closer to conflagration yesterday when the Orange Order announced that it would defy the ban on its Drumcree parade marching along Portadown's predominantly nationalist Garvaghy Road on Sunday.

Hundreds of Orangemen intend to gather at Drumcree parish church and not move until permitted to march home along their traditional route. "Should that be next Sunday or Sunday week, Portadown District is prepared to stand at Drumcree Church for 365 days if necessary for the principle and right to return along Garvaghy Road," Denis Watson, the Co Armagh district master of the Orange Order, said.

Orange leaders promised to "render whatever support necessary" to Portadown members to fight "sectarian ghettoisation". They called for peaceful protest, but were unable to rule out violence.

Local Orangemen said that food and shelter would be provided for as many as 1,500 protesters, and that the police would have to arrest and remove them if the protest were declared illegal.

A similar protest in 1996 was joined by thousands of supporters from across Northern Ireland and disorder closed roads, ports and airports across the Province. After three days Sir Hugh Annesley, the RUC Chief Constable at the time, reversed the ban, triggering serious riots in nationalist areas.

The crisis threatened to disrupt today's inaugural meeting of the Northern Ireland assembly. Mr Watson and the Rev Ian Paisley, both members of the assembly, insisted that it should take precedence over all other business.

Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, said yesterday that "everyone in positions of responsibility must do all they can" to arrange a compromise.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, appealed for "calm and good sense" and urged all the Province's political leaders to use their influence. Behind the scenes, the British and Irish Governments were doing their utmost to defuse the situation. "We're seeing if there's a chink of light anywhere," an Irish official said.

Last night David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party leader, emerged from a two-hour meeting with Ronnie Flanagan, the RUC Chief Constable, saying that the ban by the Parades Commission was "a very serious threat to peace and stability". He said he would ask Dr Mowlam to review it.

Gary McMichael, the Ulster Democratic Party leader, said he feared that a confrontation at Drumcree would drive loyalist paramilitaries back towards extremism.

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Actors back Penelope Keith in charity row

By Claudia Joseph

PENELOPE KEITH, the actress renowned for her portrayal of bossy characters in *The Good Life* and *To The Manor Born*, was confronted yesterday by members of the Actors' Benevolent Fund after she instigated a £10,000 audit of the charity.

Miss Keith, 58, who was appointed president of the fund eight years ago, upset members of the charity's executive council when she hired the chartered accountants Hartley Fowler to investigate the fund's finances and dismissed staff.

Rosemary Stevens, the former general secretary, who was asked to resign, and Christine Brown, her assistant, are taking the charity to an industrial tribunal, alleging wrongful dismissal, which could entail big legal bills for the fund.

Four members of the council, including Angharad Rees, star of *Poldark*, and Nickolas Grace, resigned and reported the fund to the Charity Commission for breaching its articles. But yesterday Miss Keith, who lives in a 17th-century manor near Milford, Surrey, was re-elected president during the fund's annual meeting in Central London.

Emerging from the two-hour meeting, wearing an enamel badge with the slogan "head girl", she said: "We had a very good meeting with overwhelming support for the council. There was remarkably little tension. There is nothing extraordinary about an internal review of audit.

"The fund exists to help more than 1,000 actors who can't work and these sort of *rumours stop what we are* trying to do. It's not fair on the actors who are relying on us.

"I've got a broad back so I can take some of the flak that is being thrown at me, but of course it hurts. It is unfair that people have painted this picture of me and of the fund."

William Gaunt, star of *No Place Like Home*, said: "The vast majority of the people in there support Penny. Until we discover the outcome of the tribunal, everybody is supporting the council."

The row is threatening the existence of the charity, which was set up in 1882 to support old, sick and distressed actors and their spouses, and has the Queen as its patron.

There have been three audits since February 1997, including the £3,000 annual statutory audit, the investigation by Hartley Fowler and another by D. Bryan Andrews, a private consultant, who was paid £2,000.

The charity is not saying why Mrs Stevens and Ms Brown were dismissed, but the annual report said: "The directors intend to pursue their policy of reducing the administrative costs of the fund, in order that the number of beneficiaries may be increased." The four executive council members who resigned — Miss Rees, Mr Grace, Georgine Anderson and Philip Bloomfield — reported the fund to the Charities Commission after opposing the audits and sackings.

Yesterday Mr Grace said: "The most important thing is that this in-depth audit was not legally initiated. Most members were stunned by the issues brought up. A lot of people wanted to know why there were these problems.

"We're fighting for integrity, honour and compassion for people, for the good name of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. The money which was spent on the audit should have been spent on the actors."

The Charity Commission yesterday denied investigating the fund. "We are in contact with solicitors acting for the charity in connection with internal administration issues."


SIMON WALKER

Penelope Keith leaving the fund's annual meeting, which re-elected her president



Dissenting voices: Rees, Grace and Anderson

Confessional talk shows are 'trial by television'

Watchdog attacks 'titillating' TV for lowering standards, writes Carol Midgley

CONFESSIONAL television shows such as *Kilroy* and *Vanessa*, in which guests bare their souls to a critical studio audience, were likened to latter-day stocks yesterday.

The Broadcasting Standards Commission said some of the shows amounted to trial by television and were designed to titillate rather than inform. "That millions find the private lives and misfortunes of others to be entertaining may not be news," the commission said in its annual report. "Some would argue that the exploitation of others' misfortunes is not an endearing trait."

The commission also voiced concern over the rights of people who agree to appear in fly-on-the-wall documentaries such as *Hotel*, *The Cruise* and *Airport*. It is conducting research to discover the views of those who have made and appeared in documentaries and video diaries to decide if safeguards are needed.

Confessional programmes have been criticised recently for exploiting the audience to boost ratings. The producers of the BBC's *Kilroy*, presented by Robert Kilroy-Silk, recently put a prankster in the studio audience to enliven a debate about adultery. He dropped his trousers.

The commission upheld complaints about an episode last year of Anglia's *Vanessa*, presented by Vanessa Feltz, in which a woman who had put her son up for adoption years ago was reunited with him. It said the audience vilified her in an offensive way.

Lady Howe of Aberavon, chairwoman of the commission, said some of the shows addressed subjects in the public interest, but added that many were now "at the edge of acceptability for the time of transmission".

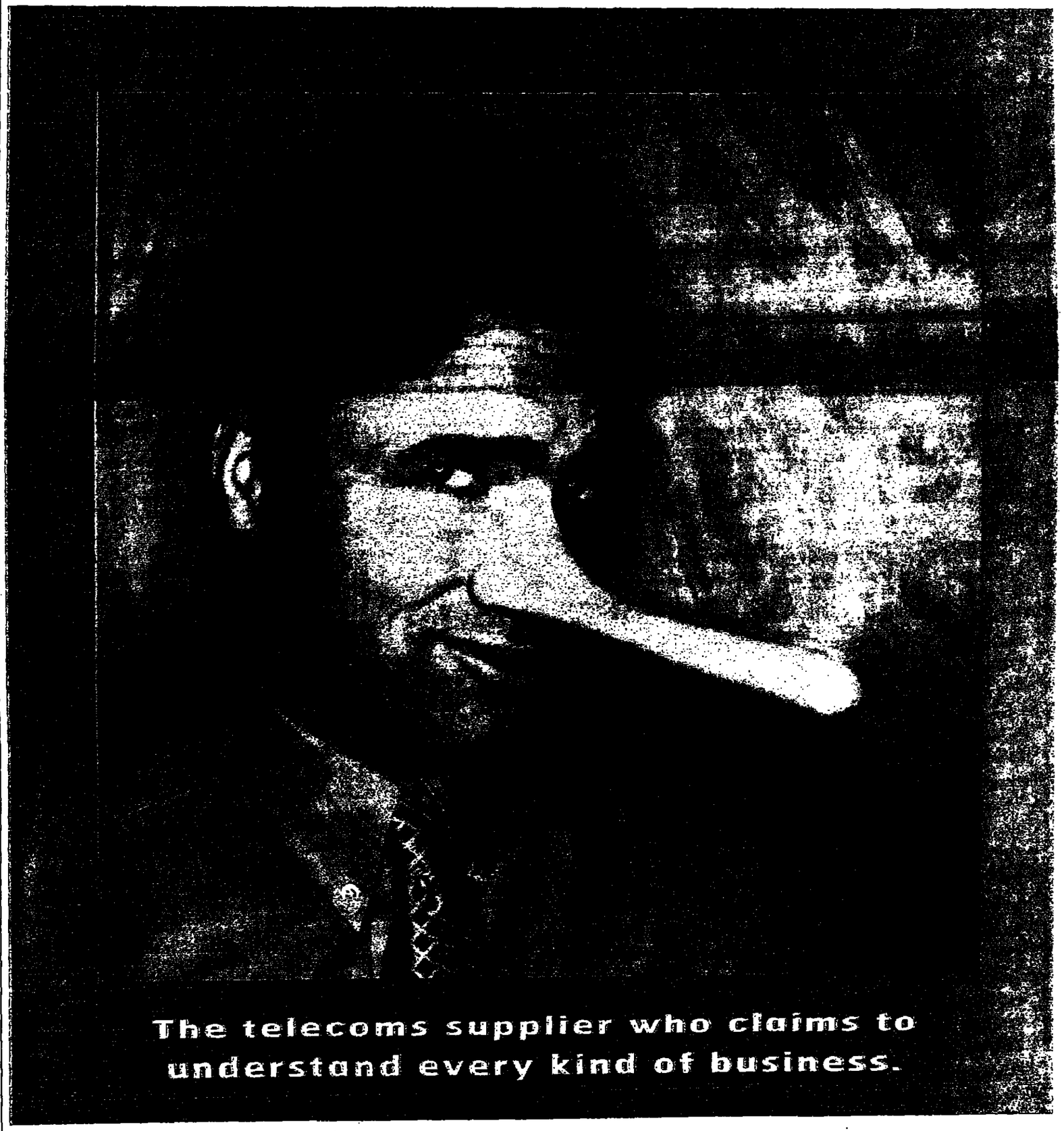
The programmes were often screened in the afternoons when children's programmes were on other channels and frequently discussed sex. The report added: "Individuals confess their indiscretions, preferably in front of the victim, to a studio audience prepared to show its loyalties, and to an amazed, sometimes shocked, often bemused audience at home."

It added that there were suspicions that much of the confession was scripted or faked. "At least one participant has claimed that he was encouraged to be outrageous to help the ratings."

The report said many of those who appeared in friends' or family videos, taken as film diaries for television, were not aware to what use the film might be put. Consent was particularly important where vulnerable or mentally distressed people were concerned.

The report also said that soap operas were becoming more sensational. It accepted that issues such as schizophrenia, euthanasia and abortion had been treated sympathetically by soaps, but asked broadcasters to be mindful of the watershed.

The BBC said it did not believe *Kilroy* and *Esther* were confessional. "Unlike in some new US chat shows, the audience are the contributors and they are certainly not on trial," it said.



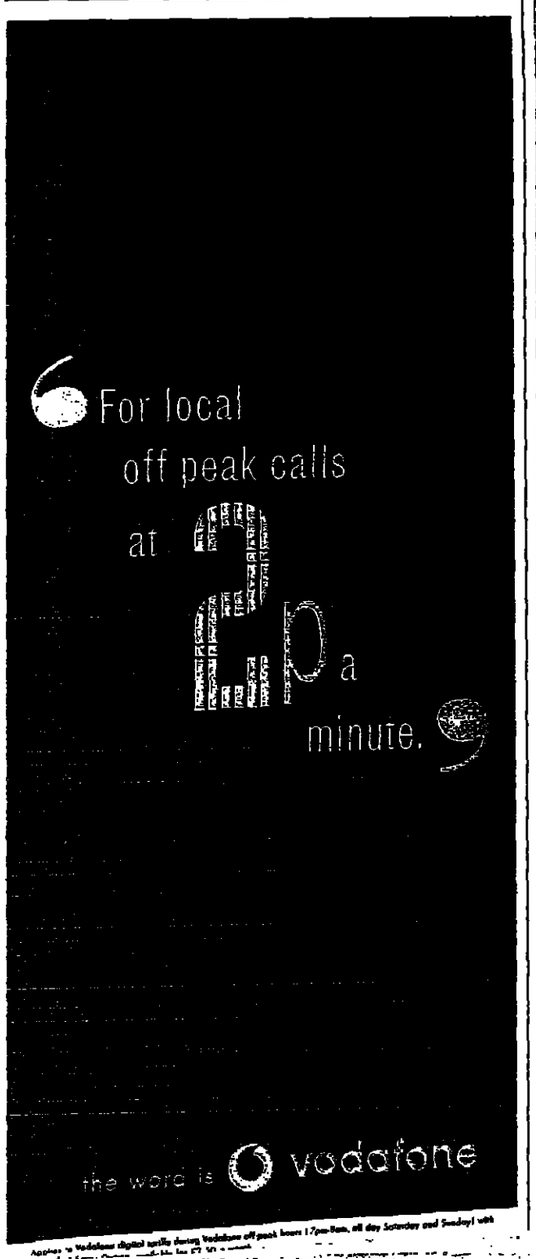
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MPs defy Cook over inquiry into arms deal

BY NICHOLAS WATT, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Foreign Secretary was plunged into a fresh row over the arms-to-Africa affair yesterday when an all-party committee of MPs rejected his request to end their cross-examination of Britain's most senior diplomat.

MPs pressed ahead with an acrimonious hearing with Sir John Kerr and announced that they would also summon Robin Cook to answer questions about alleged British complicity in illegal arms shipments to Sierra Leone.

The confrontation between the Foreign Affairs Select Committee and Mr Cook flared up yesterday when the Foreign Secretary attacked the MPs' investigation into Sierra Leone as "unreasonable" and told them to question him rather than his officials.

In a letter to Donald Anderson, the Labour chairman of the committee, Mr Cook said: "If the Select Committee wishes to persist in putting questions on these matters, they must put them directly to myself as head of the [Foriegn Office] and not to officials who are accountable to me."

The MPs took up Mr Cook's offer to appear before the committee at a later date, but insisted on pressing ahead with Sir John's scheduled appearance yesterday. Sir John, the Head of the Diplomatic Service, faced a hostile two-hour questioning from MPs who were infuriated by Mr Cook's letter.

In the letter Mr Cook rounded on the MPs for trying to conduct a "parallel" inquiry into the Sierra Leone affair at the same time as the independent inquiry by Sir Thomas Legg. He also tried to deflect recent criticism of him by offering MPs immediate access to the telegrams that passed between Peter Penfold, Britain's High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, and the Foreign Office. Mr Cook said he would allow MPs to see the telegrams if they agreed not to publish them until after the publication of the Legg report.

He concluded with an unequivocal declaration that there had been no wrongdoing over Sierra Leone: "There was no ministerial conspiracy to breach the arms embargo. There was no connivance within Whitehall to breach the arms embargo."

Tory MPs on the committee said that he was wrong to criticise MPs for prejudicing the Legg inquiry while second-guessing the outcome himself. Sir Peter Emery (C, Devon East) turned to Sir John and said: "I am saying to you Sir John if I came to you and said I believe there had been no connivance within Whitehall over a breach of the arms embargo would I not be making a judgment prior to the Legg inquiry?"

Sir John appeared stumped for an answer. Eventually he said there may be a difference between pre-judging and prejudicing an inquiry.

Initially Sir John said that he would be unable to answer questions that fell within the remit of the Legg inquiry. He said: "In order not to prejudice the inquiry, I have to fence off the area where the inquiry may roam. I do not know where it is roaming."

☐ Officials interviewed by the Legg inquiry want their evidence to be published in full to provide a full picture of what ministers were told and which documents they were shown. Whitehall sources say they fear that Sir Thomas's report, due next month, will contain only his conclusions.

Leading article, page 21

RICHARD POHLE



Robin Cook, a keen horseman, with a china gift from Austria, which takes over from Britain today as president of the European Union

Ethical policy is a matter of pride

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ROBIN COOK has no regrets at insisting on an ethical dimension to his foreign policy and says that it has been warmly praised everywhere except in Britain.

Speaking at the end of Britain's six-month European Union presidency, he said that human rights would continue to be a centrepiece of the Government's foreign policy. "I have very boldly and robustly said that the values which underpin our domestic programme should also be values that inform our foreign policy," he told *The Times*. "There is a lot of support for that out there in the diplomatic community."

He pointed to British support for a permanent international criminal court and its advocacy of a ban on landmines, issues on which he accused the Tories of having dragged their feet. And he took pride in the European code of conduct on arms exports, promoted by the British EU presidency. Though not perfect, it was far better than the previous free-for-all. "On a range of issues we have made serious progress in putting Britain among the leading advocates of human rights." He was sorry that the Tories saw this as a matter of criticism. "Our position is more respected outside Britain than inside." On arms sales to Indonesia, he said seven licences had been turned down: no one had produced an example of an export licence having been granted for arms that might be used for repression anywhere.

Mr Cook believes that Britain's presidency has been a success but that there remains much work. "We are not going to wake up tomorrow saying 'What shall we do next?'" Europe would still take up at least half his time, especially with his membership of the foreign ministers' troika for the next six months. Britain, as president of the G8 and member of the Contact Group, would still take the lead in Kosovo. He was determined there would be no split with America, especially on talks with the Kosovo Liberation Army: the allies had to send a united message to Mr Milosevic.

Family friendly Commons plan

BY POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

A RANGE of changes aimed at making MPs' working lives more "family friendly" is to be considered by the Commons Modernisation Committee.

The timetable of the House could be changed to allow an earlier start to the weekend and time off at school half-term holidays. The main objective is to enable MPs to spend more time in their constituencies.

Ann Taylor, Leader of the House, put forward a series of recommendations but said that the total number of sitting hours must remain the same. Among the suggestions are that business on Thursdays should begin at 11.30am, three hours earlier than at present. That would usually enable MPs to leave for their constituencies shortly after 7pm, instead of after 10pm.

Mrs Taylor says that in principle the Government would like a non-sitting "constituency week" to coincide with school half-term holidays in February and October. She acknowledges, however, that the dates for these vary slightly from region to region, and says that they coincide with busy periods for the House.

Mrs Taylor's proposals will go some way towards mollifying those MPs who feel that she has failed significantly to update the procedures of the House. But she remains opposed to radical change and says that daytime sittings ending at 5pm or 6pm would not be in the best interests of the Government or MPs.

Publishing her proposals yesterday, she said they were a sensible package of changes that would help to make the House more efficient and make MPs' sitting arrangements more family friendly.

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons, from 9.30am backbench debates. From 2.30pm, International Development Questions; Prime Minister's Questions; Finance Bill, remaining stages; Teaching and Higher Education Bill, Lords amendments. In the Lords: Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill, third reading; Government of Wales Bill, report.

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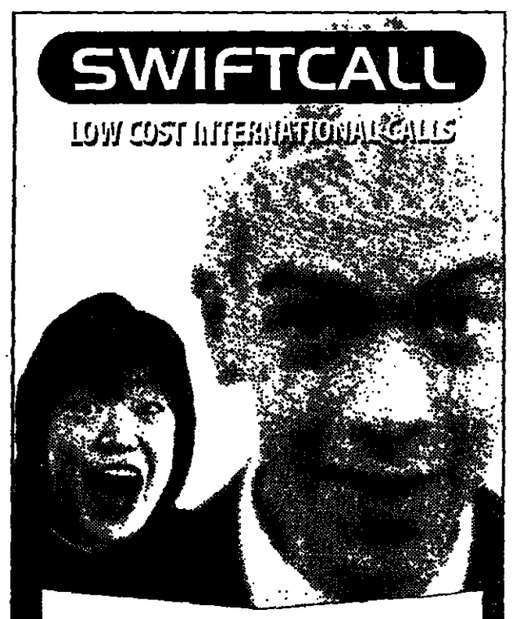
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Police paid off Stalker friend to save money

Richard Ford on how force says it chose between a £1m payout or legal costs of up to £20m

POLICE gave up defending allegations of malicious prosecution in a controversial case after being told that almost £6 million had been spent on costs and that their legal insurance cover was running out, MPs were told yesterday.

The force in Greater Manchester reached an out-of-court settlement rather than face final bills of up to £20 million, with damaging consequences for policing in the region. A deal worth more than £1 million was made with the businessman Kevin Taylor, who had alleged that his prosecution for fraud was part of a campaign to discredit his friend John Stalker, the former Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, who investigated allegations of a "shoot-to-kill" policy by the Army in Northern Ireland.

Stephen Murphy, chairman of the Greater Manchester Police Authority, told the Commons Home Affairs Select Comittee that he wanted to pursue the case, but pressure to reach an out-of-court settlement arose after Municipal Mutual Insurance informed him of the escalating costs.

The hearing had been running for seven weeks in 1995 at the High Court in Liverpool and was projected to run for a further nine months, with costs of about £30,000 a day. Solicitors acting for the police had been working on the case for two to three years and staff had to be taken from other duties to help in preparations. Each side expected to call up to 90 witnesses.

Mr Murphy said: "We were given quite clear instructions that the insurers felt they would swiftly approach the maximum amount of cover they felt they had in this case. The maximum amount of cover was £6 million." The firm advised the authority that, if it wanted to pursue the case, it would have to find any further costs out of its own budget.

The final figure could have doubled to £12 million in costs and a payout. Mr Taylor was on legal aid. In addition to the potential costs of fighting the case to the end, the police were faced with bringing a possible legal action against the insurance company over whether their policy allowed for higher cover. Mr Murphy said: "We could have been in line for a £15 million to £20million bill if we had gone down the road of fighting to the end.

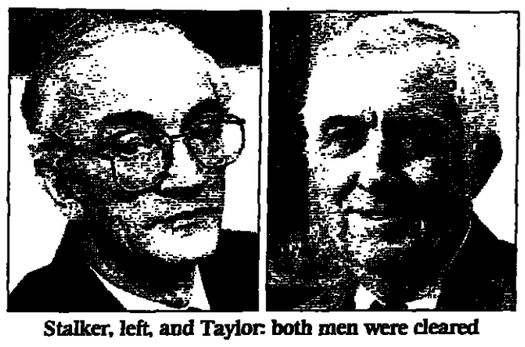
"We had to take the decision as to whether we were prepared to take the case to the end at £4 million, £5 million, £6 million, £10 million or however many millions out of the police budget. We were not prepared to do that because that would have had a serious detrimental effect on the way Greater Manchester was policed."

Since settling out of court, the police have changed their policy and now meet the first £250,000 of individual claims out of their own budgets, but Mr Murphy denied that this was a requirement of insurance companies because of the large payout to Mr Taylor.

Mr Taylor, 66, a property developer from Baxenden, Lancashire, alleged that there had been a conspiracy against Mr Stalker, who was suspended in 1986 for an alleged disciplinary offence and for "associating with known criminals". The latter referred to Mr Taylor, who was prosecuted for allegedly defrauding the Co-operative Bank of £200,000. That case collapsed amid claims that police fabricated evidence.

Mr Taylor sued for malicious prosecution, claiming that the fraud charges brought in 1990 were designed to discredit Mr Stalker.

Mr Stalker had been reinstated, but was not allowed to resume his investigation in Northern Ireland. He decided to retire early and resigned from the Greater Manchester force in January 1987.



Stalker, left, and Taylor: both men were cleared

Met sackings rise again

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND YARD sacked 44 police officers last year as the purge of corrupt and bad officers gathered pace.

The number was the highest this decade and more than double the figure for the previous year, according to the annual report for 1997-98 by Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

Fifteen of the officers were dismissed and a further 29 were required to resign after disciplinary hearings. Officers are dismissed for the most serious offences, such as a criminal conviction, and can be required to resign after allegations have been investigated within the force.

In 1996-97 there were 21 sackings. The previous highest total this decade was 35 in 1995-96.

According to the report a further nine officers resigned or retired while under investigation last year and 13 resigned or retired after being charged with discipline offences but before they could face hearings. Eight of the officers who were dismissed had been jailed.

The number of complaints of corruption against officers rose to 22 from 18 in 1996-97. There were also 1,624 complaints of assault, but allegations fell overall to 5,105 from 5,748.

In his forward to the report Sir Paul said that his fight to clear corrupt officers from the force would continue. He has claimed that the force has up to 250 corrupt officers and has formed a new internal investigation unit to deal with them.



ROSS PARRY

Brian Cheeseman's carrot outfit, unacceptable at Headingley, and over-the-top headwear are banned at Old Trafford

Fancy dress run out of Test

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

MR BLOBBY, Teletubbies and walking carrots will not be welcome at the third Test at Old Trafford starting tomorrow, and Viking warriors, St Trinian's schoolgirls and Mexican bandits may be asked to remove their helmets, straw hats and sombreros.

The dress code is part of a clampdown on unruly crowd behaviour that will also ban spectators from bringing their own alcohol into non-members' stands and discourage the Mexican wave. Anyone in a T-shirt deemed inflammatory or racist will also be banned from seeing England against South Africa at the Manchester ground.

David Edmundson, the cricket secretary at Old Trafford, said: "People are becoming more and more outrageous in trying to draw attention to themselves. We do want an atmosphere of fun, but we want to ensure people are having a good time watching the cricket."

Full bodysuits of the kind worn by pantomime Mr Blobbies will be banned. At the England versus Australia Test at Headingley last year, Brian Cheeseman, 51, was ejected for wearing a carrot outfit. There have been complaints at Old Trafford about sombreros obscuring play.

The ban on spectators bringing their own alcohol into non-members' areas was first imposed at the Texaco one-day international in May. Spectators could be seen trying to drink six-packs of lager rather than leave them at the turnstiles.

Cricket, page 41



Student hopes bat design will be big hit

BY MICHAEL EVANS

THE name Will Corker could soon become a cricketing byword after his revolutionary design of a bat handle generated interest from professional players and a manufacturer.

Mr Corker, 19, a design student at Derby University, and a keen cricketer, has come up with a handle shaped like an hour-glass. Derbyshire county cricketers, including the veteran batsman Kim Barnett, the Australian opener Michael Slater and the England bowler Dominic Cork have praised its potential.

The only problem is that Mr Corker has a prototype only and it cannot be used against a cricket ball. That will come in about two weeks.

Mr Corker, who designed the bat as part of his university course, said that Dunlop Slazenger had shown enthusiasm and expected to carry out tests later this year. "The Derbyshire cricketers I showed the bat to agreed that my handle was more comfortable than the traditional one. They said it helped them get a better grip of the bat and also gave better orientation of where the blade was facing."

He added: "When I started this project, I did a questionnaire about the cricket bat and about 80 per cent of those in the survey said they would like a different handle. So I decided to see if there were any benefits in changing the way handles were made and shaped."

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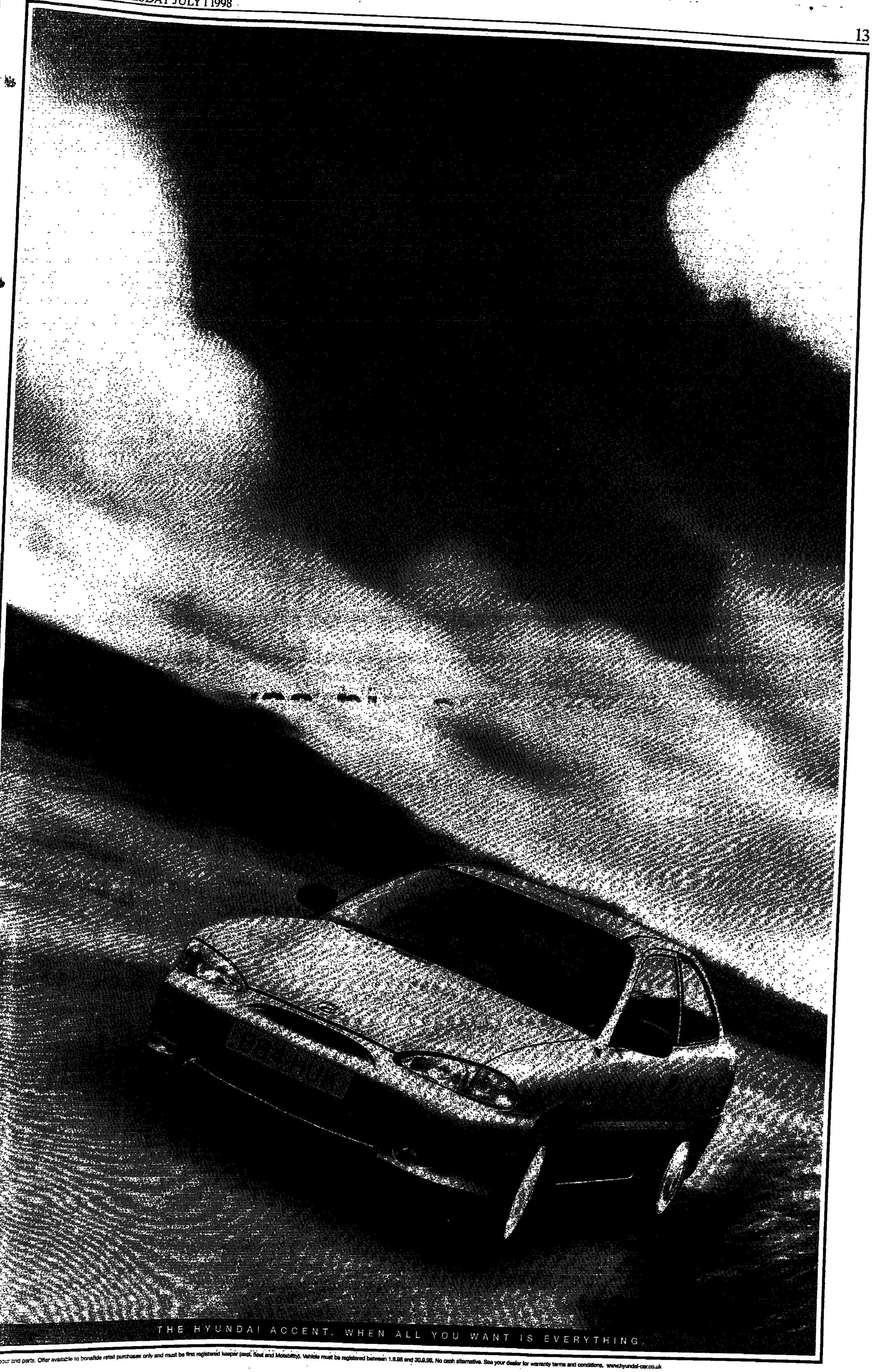
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Taiwan anger as US rejects independence

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN SHANGHAI

CLINTON IN CHINA



PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday reiterated America's determination not to encourage Taiwanese independence, to the satisfaction of his Chinese hosts, and to the horror of the island's Government.

Although the US position has been unchanged for years, it was the first time it had been voiced by Mr Clinton himself rather than members of his Cabinet.

Taiwanese leaders, who see their Government as America's "star pupil" in moving towards democracy as well as a vigorous capitalist economy, have been watching with gloom this week at Mr Clinton's fervent efforts to strengthen US ties with China.

It was in a round-table meeting with Shanghai's community leaders that Mr Clinton repeated the "three Noes" of US policy on Taiwan: no US support for its independence from China, no support for a "one China, one Taiwan" policy, and no support for Taiwan's membership of the United Nations or other groups of sovereign states.

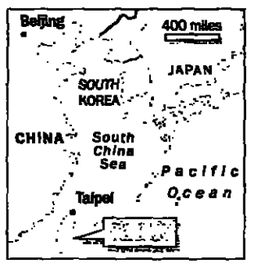
Discussing his summit last Saturday with President Jiang Zemin, Mr Clinton said: "I had the chance to reiterate our Taiwan policy which is that we don't support independence for Taiwan, or 'two Chinas' or 'one-Taiwan one-China'. And we don't believe that Taiwan should be a member in any organisation for which statehood is a requirement."

Mr Clinton added: "Our only policy has been that we think it has to be done peacefully. That is what our law says, and we have encouraged the cross-Straits dialogue. And I think eventually it will bear fruit if everyone is patient and works hard."

Taiwan immediately bridled at the statement, saying through a Foreign Ministry spokesman: "The United States and Chinese communists have no right and are in no position to conduct bilateral negotiations on anything related to our affairs." A Chinese spokesman demanded: "We ask that words will be matched by action in all seriousness by the United States."

It appeared that Mr Clinton's comments had been planned. He spoke on the issue in answer to a question that only touched marginally on the island republic.

A senior official noted Mr Clinton had reaffirmed his support of the Taiwan Relations Act, which restates the commitment to Taiwan, in his speech on Monday at Peking University in Beijing and said this reference probably had not made China happy. "We are trying to have balanced statements on this," he said of the Taiwan issue.



For all their complaints, the Taiwanese will have been relieved that there was no formal statement on their country and no further attempt by the Chinese to curtail the supply of weaponry to the island in the light of China's enhanced status with Washington as a result of the Asian economic crisis.

The remarks were the hard kernel of a day in China's commercial capital, with its boulevards, neon lights, theatres and gleaming skyscrapers.

In a series of "outreach" meetings, the President and Hillary Clinton threw themselves into community concerns with great gusto, showing a shirt-sleeved enthusiasm for local traffic problems, legal aid clinics and rural libraries desperate for an Internet link.

Mr Clinton, Hillary and their daughter Chelsea later toured the more picturesque parts of the city, walking down the glittering streets of shops. Back in the limousine, as it began to pull away along the streets lined with dense crowds, Mr Clinton leaped out by an ice-cream stand, buying soft vanilla cones for himself and Chelsea.

They walked for half an hour in the Yu Gardens, a series of landscaped pavilions linked by walkways across ponds filled with golden carp.

As the Clintons unwind from the drama and diplomacy of the weekend summit on the home stretch of the nine-day visit, the White House is portraying the trip as a resounding success.

However, Shanghai's many empty skyscrapers and hotels should warn Mr Clinton, if he saw them, that China's transformation remains fragile, and the success of his mission will depend as much on the next year's economic picture as on the past week's politics.

Mr Clinton's charm offensive is part of an attempt to win the "hearts and minds" of ordinary Chinese. But it is also a sign of how on this trip, more than on any other recent foreign visit, he is filled with a sense that his personal contribution could make a difference. He appears to identify with China and with the Chinese obsession with education, which has struck a chord given his struggle to rise from poverty. The same is true of Mrs Clinton, who spent yesterday touring a girls' school and women's groups.

When she married Mr Clinton and moved to Arkansas, part of the compensation for leaving a high-flying legal career, she explained to friends, was the feeling that she could make a difference to ordinary people's lives. But the immersion of the Clintons in the Chinese project is worrying countries which also compete for America's affections. India and Japan, as well as Taiwan, have watched this week's bonding with concern.

Terracotta warriors, page 20

GOH CHAI HIN / EPA



Hillary Clinton helps two children to cut the opening ribbon at the Shanghai Children's Medical Centre yesterday. She threw herself into community concerns with gusto, touring a girls' school and women's groups.

President takes hot seat on talk radio

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN SHANGHAI

WITH callers lighting up the switchboard, the American President fielded questions on a popular Chinese radio talk show yesterday, bantering about the Asian economy, World Cup football and how he stays in shape.

The exchange was tame by the acerbic standards of US talk radio but Mr Clinton called the experience an "historic occasion".

"The more we do these things, the more we will be able to work through our differences and build a common future," he said. "And besides, it will make life more interesting and more fun."

On Asia's financial turmoil, he praised China for keeping its currency stable, but added: "We cannot see growth restored in Asia unless it is restored in Japan."

He noted the forthcoming legislative election and Government plans for financial reform. "If it is a good proposal and the confidence of investors ... is raised, then I believe you will see the situation turn around" in Asia, he said.

The toughest question came from his host, Zuo Anlong, who suggested the President might have difficulty dealing with opponents of the trip back home.

Mr Clinton said his televised exchange on human rights with President Jiang in Beijing and the broadcast of his remarks at Peking University should quieten his critics.

A university student, Mr Li, said: "You seem to be very healthy and you seem to have a very nice figure." He asked how Mr Clinton stays in shape. The President said he was once a regular jogger but now uses a stair machine for exercise.

Mr Li also asked who he thought would win the World Cup. "I think the Brazilians are always hard to beat," Mr Clinton replied.

Hong Kong ends first year under China scarred by Asian crisis

Its British cachet gone, the former shoppers' paradise has lost both tourists and jobs, reports **James Pringle**

ONCE Beijing's allies called him a "strutting prostitute", a "thief of 1,000 years", "a dirty tickster" and, in an odd epithet, a "tango dancer". His successor, the Beijing-appointed Tung Chee-hwa, may have choked on his breakfast this week to read that Chris Patten, the last British Governor, is returning.

News of Mr Patten's three-day trip, part of an autumn tour to promote his book *East and West*, comes at a time of gloom as the former colony marks the first anniversary of its return to Chinese rule today with little sense of elation.

The once vibrant economy is facing a painful recession, the stock market is at half its value of last summer, luxury property prices have fallen by 40 per cent, high interest rates exacerbate a severe credit crunch, unemployment is at its highest level for 15 years at 4.2 per cent and the economy is expected to contract 4 per cent this year. "I wouldn't be surprised to see people out in the streets demonstrating," said one shop worker whose friends have been laid off.

All this is the result of the Asian financial crisis which began on July 2 last year — just a day after the handover — with the collapse of the Thai bhat. Now about half of Hong Kong's 6.6 million people are less optimistic about the future, and even some status-conscious Tai-Tais, the once-prosperous wives of the Taipans, admit they shop at sales — if at all.

Not just trendy fashion boutiques but whole department stores have closed and many smaller restaurants and shops have disappeared. Tourism has slumped by 25 per cent compared to the same period last year, leaving aircraft seats and hotel rooms empty. Hong Kong is no longer a shoppers' paradise. "The sad thing is that Hong Kong — no longer under British colonial rule — has lost its special cachet and has become just another Chinese city," said one resident.

To add to the nightmare, Hong Kong emerged this week as the world's most expensive city, ahead even of Tokyo — an honour likely to scare off even more visitors.

One resident said that while Mr Tung would have been too polite to say so, he probably regards news of Mr Patten's visit with as much enthusiasm as the arrival of yet another food or pollution scourge; in the past year avian flu, *E-coli* and the "red tide" of poisoned algae that destroyed fish-farm stocks have all struck.

It was only a year ago last night that Mr Patten left for home with his wife and three daughters on the Royal Yacht. A recent survey found that he was overwhelmingly perceived to have done a better job than Mr Tung at running Hong Kong. However, the severe economic downturn was not of Mr Tung's making, though he has been accused of dithering and weak leadership in trying to deal with it. Yet its affects have been enough to wipe the smile off the face of the former shipping magnate who today presides over ceremonies marking the first anniversary of the handover, in the company of the Chinese leader who chose him for the job. President Jiang Zemin flew in yesterday to join celebrations and to open Chek Lap Kok Airport, which may have priced itself out of the market.

Two hundred men of the Chinese Army, which has hardly left barracks, will today put on a marching band and drill display. Yet festivities are being kept low key because of the economic crisis. Uner a £3.4 billion rescue package the sale of new government land until March 31 has been frozen, overturning plans to build 85,000 affordable flats a year to try to ensure the Hong Kong currency remains tied to the US dollar.

The crisis apart, the record of Mr Tung and China has not been so bad, most resident diplomats agree. Fears for freedom of expression have not materialised.

There have been the first multi-party election in China, albeit rigged against pro-democracy candidates, and the country's first permitted protest against the Tiananmen massacre, when 40,000 people turned out in driving rain to mourn the dead of June 4, 1989.

Tomorrow President Clinton arrives on a morale-boosting mission as the last stage of his nine-day trip to China.



Tung Chee-hwa, right, Hong Kong's Chief Executive, welcomes President Jiang to anniversary celebrations

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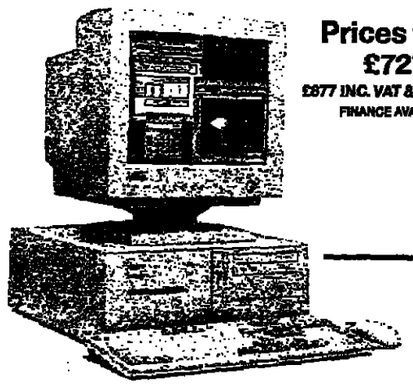
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Thinking outside the box

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UN plays down Iraqi clash as 'simple error'

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON



IRAQ'S provocation of allied warplanes patrolling the southern "no-fly zone" may indicate that President Saddam Hussein is despairing of winning relief from sanctions through his "charm offensive" with United Nations weapons inspectors.

Ever since the UN-brokered deal over inspections of Saddam's presidential palaces earlier this year, Western diplomats have expected a new confrontation with Iraq when its leadership realises that it has to go further to satisfy the inspectors' demands.

Security Council diplomats had thought that a new crisis would not erupt until after the next six-monthly report of Richard Butler, the chief UN inspector, in October. But revelations about Iraq's "weaponisation" of VX nerve gas before the Gulf War have virtually guaranteed that Mr Butler's next report will be negative, unless Iraq makes dramatic new admissions.

Three weeks ago, a US Army laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground found traces of the lethal gas on fragments of missile warheads destroyed by Iraq.

Mr Butler told the Security Council last week that there was no doubt that Iraq had loaded VX into the warheads.

In recent days, Iraq's most reliable protectors on the Security Council — Russia and France — have encouraged the leadership to come clean about its deployment of VX.

"The discovery of VX traces has been a serious setback for Iraq, and probably convinced them that sanctions will not be lifted in October," one Western diplomat said yesterday.

When Mr Butler presented the findings in Baghdad, Iraq denied it had ever weaponised VX although it admits it produced almost four tonnes of the gas. The revelations provoked renewed warnings of "grave consequences" if sanctions were not lifted soon, and fresh denunciations of Mr Butler himself. *Babel*, the leading Iraqi newspaper, carried a front-page editorial declaring: "The mad dog is barking louder and louder."

Officials at the UN Special Commission (Unscom), which conducts the search for Iraq's banned chemical and biological weaponry and ballistic missiles, said yesterday's clash could have been just a simple mistake, and played down its wider significance.

The Iraqi decision to lock on to British Tornados with radar in the no-fly zone appeared to be an isolated incident. William Cohen, US Secretary of Defence, said yesterday.


Butler: conciliatory

He disclosed that there had been no other recent evidence of the Iraqis putting their radars on to higher alert or moving them around in an "aggressive manner".

Asked why the British did not fire a missile but left the task to a US Air Force F16, Mr Cohen said the American aircraft's Harm missile was deemed to be most effective for the job. "It was a split-second operation," he said.

The Pentagon did know whether the missile hit the target or missed, but the missile has a memory that enables it to home in on a radar site even after the radar has been switched off.

Mr Cohen dismissed Iraqi claims that the attack on the missile site was unprovoked. The radar had been identified by four British aircraft and the F16.

During his trip to Baghdad, the hawkish Mr Butler did his best to sound conciliatory, presenting Iraq with a "road map" of the information it needs to provide if sanctions are to be lifted.

Even as allied planes fired on the Iraqi missile battery yesterday, a team from Unscom's sister organisation, the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is responsible for uncovering Iraq's clandestine nuclear programme, was in Baghdad to discuss closing its investigative phase.

☐ **Shanghai:** President Clinton was not informed that a US warplane had fired on an Iraqi missile site until eight hours after the incident, an American official said yesterday. Samuel Berger, the White House national security adviser, informed Mr Clinton after a dinner hosted by Xu Kuangdi, the Mayor of Shanghai, the official said. *(Reuters)*

Tripp hits at critics on her big day in sex tape court

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

LINDA TRIPP, the divorcée who secretly tape-recorded Monica Lewinsky talking about a sexual relationship with President Clinton, finally got her day in court yesterday.

She was summoned to testify in secret before the Washington grand jury that is investigating whether Mr Clinton and Ms Lewinsky obstructed justice by lying in depositions for the Paula Jones case — charges both deny. Earlier Ms Tripp told *The Washington Post* she was eager to dispel claims that she manipulated an unwitting Ms Lewinsky to entrap the President.

Ms Tripp's appearance was rightly seen as a pivotal moment in the interminable inquiries conducted by Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor whose pursuit of the case bears comparison with the dogged and charmless zeal of Inspector Javert in *Les Misérables*.

Ms Tripp, 48, accompanied by her two teenage sons, replied only with a smile as questions were put by a media throng of 300 outside the federal court.

Her lawyer, Anthony Zaccignini, issued an assurance that she was not nervous about the grand jury hearing where her appearance could last several days. "She's doing good," he said.


JOHN GILLIS / AP

Linda Tripp, a former member of the White House staff, leaving her Columbia home in Maryland yesterday to make her long-awaited grand jury appearance

In her *Post* interview she complained of being unfairly vilified in the five months since she took 20 hours of tapes to Mr Starr — who promptly asked her to make another while FBI agents eavesdropped.

Ms Tripp took issue with critics who portray her as having betrayed Ms Lewinsky after cultivating her friendship. "I did not cultivate Monica, she cultivated me," she said. "Monica is a very worldly person. She educated *me*."

Maybe, but Ms Tripp has endured five months of being pilloried, especially by late-night television comedians, as a Clinton-hating "snitch". Now, she said, she was anxious to tell the truth to the grand jury, which will decide if there are grounds for indictment.

She was expected to testify that Ms Lewinsky had given graphic descriptions of oral sex with Mr Clinton. More crucial, though, is whether Ms Tripp has evidence that Mr Clinton did persuade Ms Lewinsky to cover up their relationship in the Jones case — lies and perjury being against the law.

Before falling silent in January, Ms Tripp said that Ms Lewinsky had described "every detail" of her relation ship with Mr Clinton during hundreds of hours of conversations.

Ms Tripp justified coming forward because, as a parent of children close to Ms Lewinsky's age, she felt "horror at the abuse of power and emotional anguish she has endured".

Last week, in advance of Ms Tripp's testimony, Mr Starr presented a surprise witness, Dale Young, who said Ms Lewinsky gave her a similar account of her relationship with Mr Clinton. Yesterday the President was far from the commotion in Washington, enjoying a radio phone-in programme in Shanghai during a visit to China that has received glowing media coverage.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hi ho, hi ho it's off on strike we go

Paris: The wonderful but industrially militant world of Disney was facing a pay strike yesterday by restaurant workers, technicians and performers at Disneyland Paris (Ben Macintyre writes).

Subjects of the Magic Kingdom such as dwarfs, toy soldiers and Goofy say they are not being paid enough to march in hot costumes. They want a 7 per cent rise. The management said the quality of visits to Disneyland was unaffected by the action.

Envoys quit Dili

Dili: Three European envoys — from Britain, Austria and The Netherlands — cut short an East Timor visit after a man was killed when security forces opened fire at an independence rally. *(Reuters)*

War hero killed

Roseburg, Oregon: Marion Carl, 82, a major-general who cheated death in a fighter plane in the Second World War and Vietnam and as a test pilot, was shot dead by a robber at his home here. *(AP)*

Airport chaos

A new computerised system has thrown Madrid airport into chaos, with 15,000 suitcases becoming lost and thousands of passengers stranded as their flights were cancelled or delayed.

Land concession

Sydney: The threat of a race-based election receded as the Government moved towards a compromise over the Native Title Bill which gives Aborigines the same mining rights as farmers on pastoral leases.

Eau zone battle

New York: The fashion designer Calvin Klein is suing his rival Ralph Lauren over the launch of a perfume called Romance, claiming the bottle is a copy of the one containing his own product, Eternity.

Editors' rift over Washington journal

FROM IAN BRODIE IN NEW YORK

HAROLD EVANS, a former editor of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, was at the centre of conflicting accounts over the sacking yesterday of a top magazine editor in Washington.

After a stormy tenure which lasted 22 months, James Fallows was dismissed as editor of the journal *US News & World Report*, a news magazine which trails behind *Time* and *Newsweek* in circulation.

US News is owned by Mort Zuckerman, a publisher and property developer who brought in Mr Evans to be editorial director of the magazine after his departure last autumn as president of the Random House publishing firm, recently acquired by Bertelsmann, the giant German media concern.

In a lengthy address to his staff, Mr Fallows said that, when an owner and editor disagree about a magazine's direction, the owner's view prevails.

However, Mr Evans insisted that it was he who had made the decision to replace Mr Fallows, although Mr Zuckerman was "supportive". Mr Evans said he thought it was time for a change of editor.

Mr Evans is married to another British journalist, Tina Brown, editor of *The New Yorker*.

The Washington Post claimed that Mr Fallows was unhappy about a decision forced on him to serialise Mr Evans's forthcoming book on American history. Mr Evans said Mr Zuckerman had acquired serial rights to the book but plans were not finalised.

Mr Zuckerman was widely reported to have felt that the magazine's coverage under Mr Fallows was too rarefied. He was highly critical when it devoted only one page to the murder of Gianni Versace, the Italian fashion designer.

Mr Fallows will be replaced by Stephen Smith, who is currently editor of *National Journal*, a Washington political magazine.

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Cossack police will stir ghosts of 1917 in St Petersburg



Cossacks: Tsar's defenders

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

MOUNTED Russian Cossacks may return to the streets of St Petersburg to enforce law and order, providing an eerie reminder of the dying days of Tsarist rule, when the cavalry used sabres and lances to break up peaceful demonstrations.

According to a plan drawn up by General Viktor Vlasov, St Petersburg's new police chief and himself from a Cossack family, mounted Cossack patrols will be introduced on an experimental basis in one part of the city.

If the trial is successful in curbing crime, the scheme will be extended to other districts.

The patrols will have to provide their own horses, but will be supplied with side-arms — deemed to be more appropriate to the modern day than the traditional sabres — by the police force, which will also pay their wages.

In the last few years, the Russian authorities have taken several steps to revive the Cossack community, suppressed over 70 years of communism, and restore to them their traditional role of defending Russia's borders. Armed Cossack detachments have been formed in some areas of southern Russia, where most of the country's estimated ten million Cossacks live. A Cossack school has been reopened in the city of Novocherkassk, where about 200 boys study Cossack traditions and history alongside the standard subjects.

General Vlasov, in his former job as head of the transport police in the northwestern region, set up Cossack patrols on trains travelling out of St Petersburg in 1993, in the wake of a surge of attacks on passengers in sleeping cars. The scheme proved effective and continues on 14 trains a day.

The Cossacks emerged in the late 15th century as a community of runaway serfs, outlaws and adventurers who settled on Russia's southern borders and were granted their freedom in exchange for defending the frontier against Tartars, Turks and Caucasian tribes.

The loose arrangement was formalised 250 years later by Catherine the Great, who granted them exemption from taxes in exchange for military service. Under this imperial patronage, which lasted until the Bolshevik Revolution, the Cossacks gained recognition as Russia's most fearless and ferocious fighters. They also acquired the reputation of being virulent anti-Semites who carried out a series of pogroms with unbridled enthusiasm.

This reputation survives to this day and the arming of the Cossacks and their use as law-enforcers has drawn considerable disquiet from liberals who fear that they will use their powers to harass Jews and minority nationalities. The critics also say that such measures are assisting the Cossacks in carrying out a vigorous illegal arms trade. A number of Cossack leaders have been investigated for links with organised crime and protection rackets.

President Yeltsin's attitude to the Cossacks has been ambivalent. While he has supported their rehabilitation and encouraged a revival of their traditions, he has been wary of being too closely associated with a community with an unsavoury reputation. During the presidential elections of 1996, Mr Yeltsin received strong backing from the Cossacks who formed impromptu guards of honour around him during his provincial campaigning. But a subsequent offer by Cossack leaders to form an elite presidential guard has not been taken up by the Kremlin.

But whatever effect on law and order is brought about by the new patrols, it is sure to be of benefit to tourism. St Petersburg is Russia's leading tourist city, a shrine to the Tsarist era. The city already has a tourist police unit, resplendent in red caps and trained specially to assist visitors.

The addition of mounted Cossacks with their sheepskin hats and flamboyant costumes can only enhance the old imperial atmosphere, provided they can resist the temptation to charge into crowds round the Winter Palace.

KAI PFAFFENBACK / REUTERS

Irish jigs fail to dispel note of doubt on euro

FROM ROGER BOYES IN FRANKFURT

THE Maastricht male voice choir broke into ragged song, and for the first time in the day Wim Duisenberg, European Central Bank president, started to relax.

"The mark is not over until the fat boys sing," quipped a diplomat in the milling crowd yesterday of 600 bankers, top Eurocrats and euro-enthusiasts such as Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, Jacques Santer, the European Commission's President, and Tony Blair.

Tony Blair? The British ratpack sniffed and snorted around the ample creaking troughs of Frankfurt's Alte Oper, scenting a U-turn on the part of the Prime Minister. They were disappointed. Mr Blair's speech and a long article in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* stuck to the familiar line.

Mr Blair wished the euro every success. If it did not catch a cold and the British people approved, the Government would join in. Don't call us, we'll call you.

The Maastricht singers (lots of jokes about being "on target") were followed by members of the Irish dance company Riverdance. But the genuine jigs and reels had already been performed by Herr Kohl in what may well have been his last big pro-European speech as German leader. The usual pressures of a general election mean that he has to pretend to be a eurosceptic for the rest of the campaign, bashing the Commission and demanding his money back. Yesterday the Chancellor was his old self.

"The euro will develop an entirely new feeling of belonging on the Continent. Europe will become concrete for ordinary people."

The euro, he said, now had to give Europe a push towards political union. Germany takes on the European presidency on January 1, 1999, the day that the euro becomes more than a virtual currency. Bonn would be energetically driving integration again, he promised.

But the question lingering in the air (not least for Mr Duisenberg, who enjoys the political protection of the German leader) was: would Herr Kohl be at the helm? Britain in or out? Helmut up or down? The band accompanying the Irish dancers, even with its hectic rhythms, seemed a model of calm compared to the rest of the euro show.

> "The band's hectic music was a model of calm compared to the rest of the euro show"

The most pressing uncertainty is whether the euro and the European Central Bank — housed in a skyscraper called Euro Towers a short walk from yesterday's festivities — will be ready on the day. Mr Duisenberg is rightly nervous that the Asian financial crisis will be the Central Bank's first problem. Credibility in the currency, he indicated, would grow over decades and there was to be no sprint towards becoming a reserve currency. Contrast this with the comments last month of Jean François-Poncet, a former French Foreign Minister, who declared: "A vast re-distribution of the world's monetary reserves will follow, to the detriment of the dollar and to the profit of the euro, that will oblige the United States to share with Europe the privileges it takes from the international status of its money."

Mr Duisenberg, one suspects, will have a French problem for some time to come, and not only because of the half-promise to consider early retirement and allow a Frenchman to take over the running of the bank.

The European Monetary Institute officially becomes the European Central Bank from today and it then has only six months to prepare itself. Although there is a clear line of command, set out in a handy organogram, the ranks of key Central Bank officials have yet to be filled out. There is no agreement on the fundamentals: should the bank use the French or German method of tracking monetary targets? Should monetary targets be complemented by an inflation target? How much of the European Central Bank reserve should be held in gold? What should be the relationship between the bank and national central banks?

If these issues are not settled in the next few months, Euro Towers could just turn out to be an unfortunate variant of Fawlty Towers.



Helmut Kohl extends a protective hand to Wim Duisenberg, the European Central Bank's chief, yesterday

Blair pledges help for single currency

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR yesterday wished the single currency well and promised to work to make it succeed.

Attending the launch of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt at the end of Britain's six-month presidency of the European Union, the Prime Minister reaffirmed the Government's commitment in principle to join the euro.

But he went out of his way to emphasise that the Government's position on the single currency has not changed, after hints that he has become more enthusiastic about the project and last week's attack by *The Sun*. Mr Blair said Britain's position remained the same as that set out by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, last October when he ruled out membership of the single currency during the present Parliament.

Mr Blair called for economic reform across Europe to help the single currency succeed. "With exchange rates locked together forever, we need more market flexibility, not less. The single currency will embrace a population larger than the United States, but we do not have labour mobility of the American kind."

He added: "We wish the single currency well and will work to make it succeed, and we will take our decision on the basis of the national economic interest."

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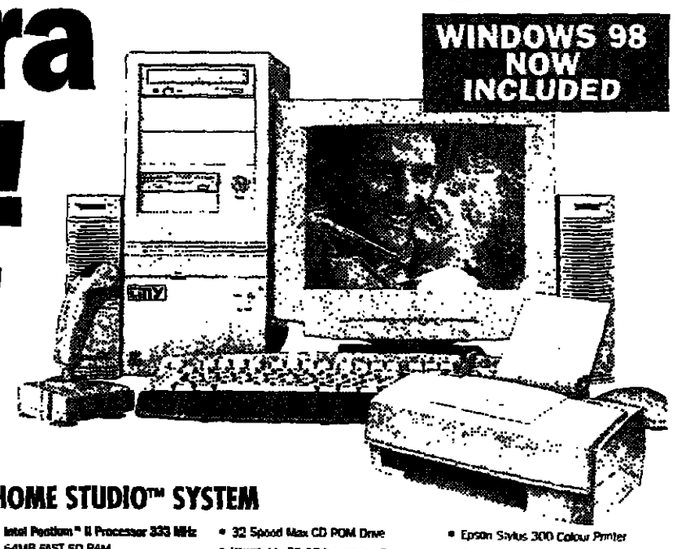
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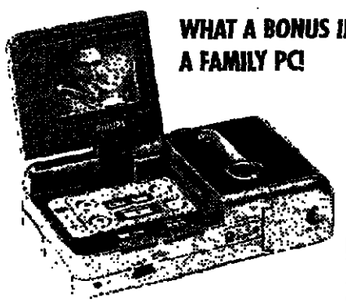
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Kosovo conflict escalates as Serbs take mine

FROM TOM WALKER IN KRUSEVAC



SERB local authorities in Kosovo claimed yesterday that, after a two-day battle in which they killed ten guerrillas, their security forces had retaken a strategic opencast coalmine captured by the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) last week.

During most of the morning, however, heavy shelling and automatic weapons fire reverberated around Hade village above the rambling wastes of the Belacevac mine on Pristina's outskirts. The bombardment had intensified since Monday and, if the guerrillas had been driven out, then they were putting up spirited resistance near by.

An Albanian woman journalist who escaped overnight from the besieged village of Belacevac, west of the mine, described how the Serbs had orchestrated a three-pronged attack against the KLA, involving the Yugoslav Army, police and armed civilians. She said at least 20 houses had been destroyed in Hade and another eight in Belacevac. On her way out she had seen tanks, anti-aircraft guns and hundreds of troops moving into the area.

In Krusevac hamlet yesterday, a mile and a half from the fighting, local Serbs tried to prevent Albanian neighbours from taking journalists to a vantage point. "We gave the Albanians ten days to get out. Why shouldn't we have one day with tanks?" protested a mine policeman, Miodrag Jankovic, sporting a Yugoslav Army tattoo on his arm. He said the Albanians were threatening to kill his family: the Albanians said the same of the Jankovics. There is evidence that the dozens of settlements fringing the Kosovo Polje plain are on the verge of inter-ethnic bloodshed.

As the Jankovics gave us fruit juice and cherries from their garden, the earsplitting bombardment of Hade continued, and plumes of smoke rose from the village.

Despite the evident insecurity of the area, the local power station manager insisted yesterday that his engineers were back in Belacevac, preparing for normal production. *Politika*, the government daily newspaper, ignored the shelling but admitted Serb forces had "carefully neutralised more than ten Albanian terrorists", whom it accused of using women and children as shields. The police denied suffering casualties, but an ambulance was seen speeding from their lines.

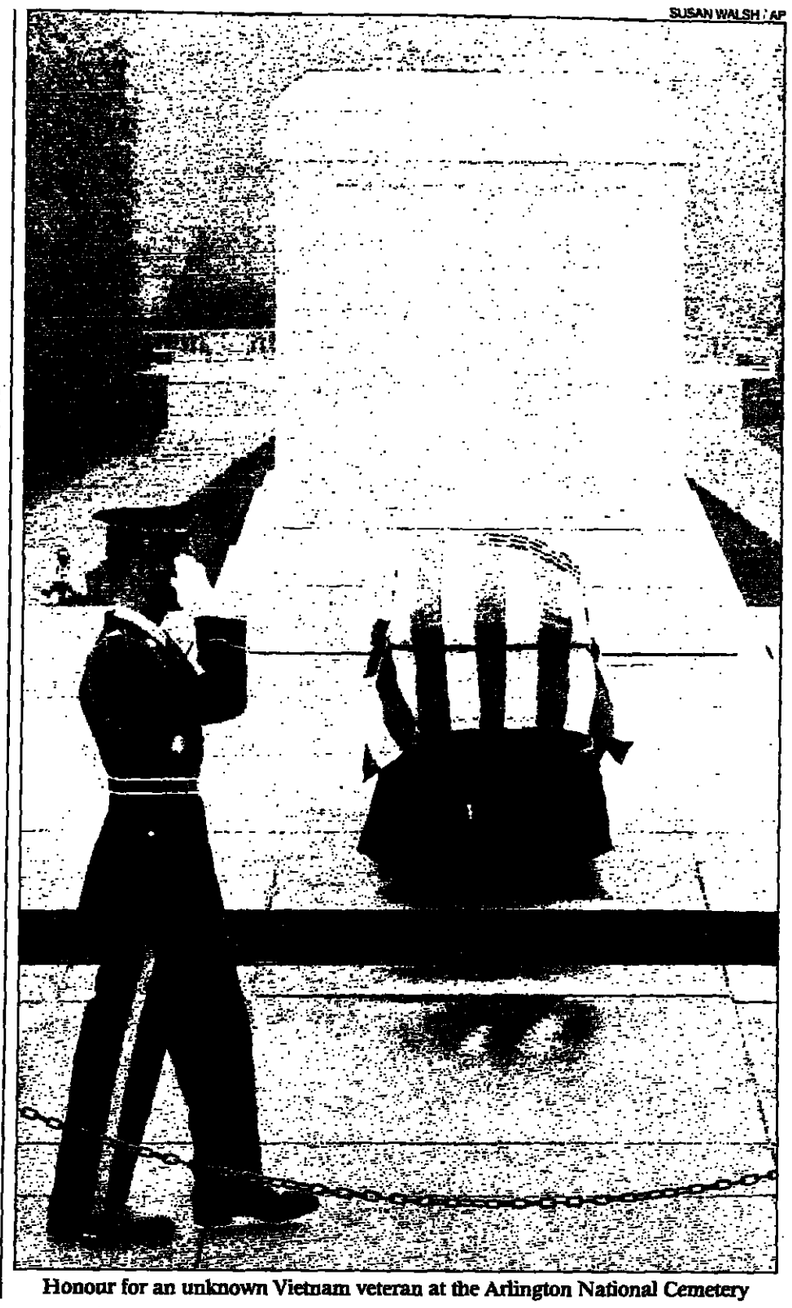
There was still no news of nine Serb hostages abducted from the mine by the KLA, among them Marjan Buha, the brother of the mine's director. "It wasn't about getting the hostages back; the main point was to ensure [an] electricity supply," said Radovan Urosevac, director of the Serb-run media centre in Pristina. Albanian media sources feared that the hostages may be killed if the KLA has taken heavy losses.

There is a growing sense among Serbs that the police and army units are not doing enough to stop the KLA. Yesterday Miroslav Solevic, self-styled president of the Nis-based Serb Patriots, accused the Government of incompetence, adding that 7,000 Serb civilians were prepared to join the fight for Kosovo.

His opinions were shared yesterday by *Vecernje Novosti*, which urged the Government to begin more offensives — in particular to liberate the village of Kijevo, surrounded by the KLA for a week. "If Mrs Thatcher could save 200 shepherds on the Falklands, why can't we save 200 Serbs?" the Belgrade newspaper said.

☐ **London:** Fighting between Serb forces and Kosovo Albanians has led to horrific attacks on civilians by armed forces on both sides, Amnesty International said yesterday. It called for independent human rights monitoring in the province. *(Reuters)*

SUSAN WALSH / AP



Honour for an unknown Vietnam veteran at the Arlington National Cemetery

DNA tests may bury Unknown Soldier ritual

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

DECADES of military tradition of paying homage to America's war dead by burying an unidentified victim in a tomb for unknown warriors could be at an end, thanks to new DNA testing.

There might never again be battlefield remains that cannot be identified.

The Pentagon announced yesterday that a body from the Vietnam War interred in the Tomb of the Unknowns, with others who died in both world wars and Korea, is definitely unknown no more. The sombre discovery prompted Pentagon officials and others to ask whether there should even be a new search for another unknown warrior.

Remains exhumed in May from the sarcophagus in Arlington National Cemetery, were confirmed as Lieutenant Michael Blassie, an air force fighter pilot who was shot down near the village of An Loc, northwest of Saigon, 26 years ago.

There are 2,087 American service members still listed as missing in action from Vietnam. Occasionally bones are discovered by Vietnamese farmers and returned to American officials. But genetic testing used to identify Blassie makes it unlikely that future remains placed in the Tomb of the Unknowns could be properly be described as unknown.

Officials are reluctant to run the risk of the Blassie episode being repeated, although a senior officer said no decision would be taken until President Clinton and Congress had been consulted.

Asked if there would be a search for another unknown, William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, expressed doubts. He said the Pentagon would consult members of Congress, veterans' organisations and other authorities on what should happen next.

But he admitted: "It may be that forensic science has reached the point where there will be no other unknowns in any war. So we will have to look very carefully at where we go from here."

The new test, approved by the Pentagon only three years ago, is mitochondrial DNA. Unlike nuclear DNA used in criminal cases it does not break down soon after death and can remain in bone cells for hundreds of years.

> "Forensic science has reached the point where there will be no other unknowns in war"

It is passed down from the mother. With today's understanding of genetics, scientists can identify as little as an inch of bone with more than 99 per cent certainty.

In the Blassie case, blood was taken from his mother Jean and from the mothers of seven others whose remains were recovered after the An Loc battle. The genetic material taken from the disinterred bones matched only with Blassie's mother.

Leading article, page 21

Nigeria prepares to bite bullet on reform of the military



Kofi Annan, left, with Chief Tom Ikimi, the Nigerian Foreign Minister, during talks in Abuja on democracy

Regime contemplates mass lay-off of officers to end the 'coup culture', **Sam Kiley** writes

NIGERIA'S military Government is considering radical plans to overhaul the country's armed forces and put an end to the "coup culture".

The move comes amid a diplomatic offensive by Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Chief Emeka Ayaoku, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, to persuade General Abdusalam Abubakar to hand power back to civilians.

Advisers to the Government suggested that the most important strategy to ensure that the armed forces "never again attempt to take power and wreck democracy" would be to engineer a mass lay-off of officers above the rank of major.

The proposal was one of many presented to General Abubakar as part of wide-ranging consultations to ease the military out of office without threatening the fragile stability of Nigeria or risking a coup by hardline officers. It urges the regime to spend more than £1 billion on generous early retirement packages for middle and top-ranking officers.

"We have got to get the armed forces sorted out. Cadet officers now talk openly not of having the ambition to become a battalion commander but of what they would like to do when they become governors of a state. The politicisation of the military has gone too far," one of General Abubakar's advisers said.

Olusegun Obasanjo, the only general in Nigeria's history to have handed power back to civilians, said he "neither supports the idea, nor do I condemn it. I note it". General Obasanjo, released after four years in jail on the death of General Sani Abacha last month, is regarded as one of the moderate kingmakers in Nigerian politics.

His equivocal response to plans to shake up the military signals that elements within the armed forces are anxious to return to soldiering. "No one is saying who would be the person to do it [sack most of the officer corps], but there is a widespread feeling that an investment of $2 billion (£1.2 billion) or $3 billion on ensuring that the clear-out would be painless — in return for a democratic future — would be money well spent. Consider the enormous cost of the last five years of military rule, in terms of lost investment, money stolen by government members, human lives destroyed and deaths."

He continued: "One thing is absolutely certain. The armed forces must reform, and fast, before the people simply decide that they don't need or want a military at all."

Yesterday Mr Annan and Chief Anyaoku embarked on an unscheduled mission to Abuja, the Nigerian capital, to put more pressure on the regime to release political prisoners, including Chief Moshood Abiola, the presumed winner of the annulled 1993 presidential elections.

Government sources said that they expected Mr Annan to meet Chief Abiola during his three-day stay in Abuja to "try to resolve outstanding issues over Abiola's claim to the presidency".

The visits, close on the heels of a delegation from the European Union led by Tony Lloyd, the junior Foreign Office Minister, are the first since Nigeria's international isolation began after it executed nine Ogoni human rights activists during the 1994 Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference.

Mr Annan said yesterday: "I will do everything I can do to return Nigeria to democratic rule. I have been much encouraged by my talks with General Abubakar."

There are powerful forces within the armed forces that are known to oppose strongly the appointment of Chief Abiola as President, even as an interim measure ahead of new elections. There is, however, agreement that he should be released as soon as a transitional programme has been worked out. But sources at Aso Rock, the presidential villa in Abuja, said General Abubakar was unlikely to back a plan to overhaul the military ahead of the appointment of a civilian government because "he would be risking his own life".

One adviser said: "There isn't much chance that he would go so far as to approve mass lay-offs of soldiers: that would be suicide."

In General Obasanjo's view, however, such reforms would be only the start of much-needed change in Nigerian society. "I would want to see the civil service revamped . . . Our moral standards have really, really gone down. Nigeria needs a moral and spiritual regeneration."

EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

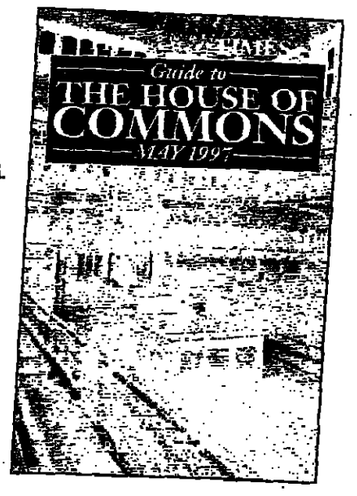
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Berbers press on with protests in Algeria

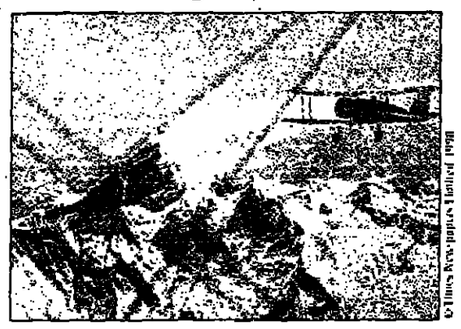
Algiers: Two days after the burial on Sunday of Matoub Lounes, the Algerian singer killed at a roadside ambush last week, hundreds of protesters again took to the streets of Tizi Ouzo yesterday (Janine di Giovanni writes). The crowd stormed the central police station and police retaliated with teargas. Three protesters have died since Saturday. Demonstrators blame the authorities for the murder of the singer, an outspoken democrat.

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Yorkshire Bank

Bank robbery: your money is at risk

Loopholes leave customers open to fraud, **Richard Miles** and **Patrick Collinson** report

Like a cigarette packet, a bank account should contain a health warning: your money is at risk unless you take steps to protect it. Fraud against banks is far more common than the industry cares to admit. It is notoriously difficult to put a figure on how much banks lose each year through fraud, not least because they are unwilling to publish details.

But, as an investigation by Radio 5 Live revealed yesterday, some frauds are extremely easy to perpetrate. Simply by getting hold of account numbers, reporters were able to withdraw hundreds of pounds and deposit them in their own accounts because banks such as the Halifax had either flawed security measures or their staff had failed to follow the correct procedures.

While it is impossible to protect against all fraud, there are some basic steps anyone can take to lessen the risks.

Never reveal your account number to anyone, unless strictly necessary. Always dispose of cash machine slips, direct debit or credit card foils at home.

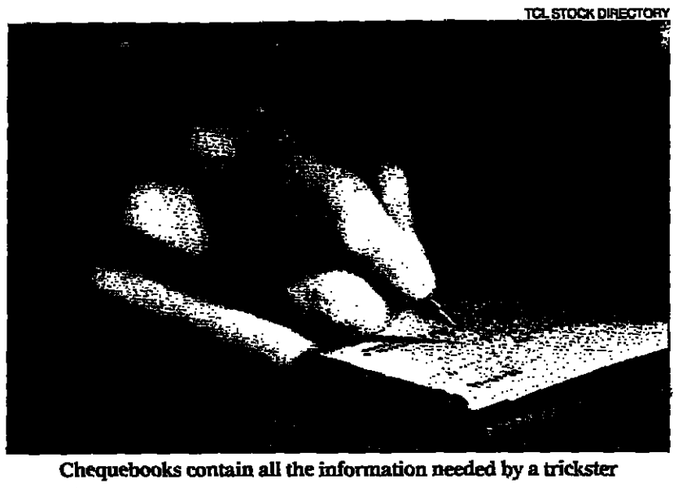
Most cash machine slips do not contain your account details, while direct debit and credit card slips usually show only the card number, not the account number. Potentially far more dangerous are the old-fashioned carbon credit card foils which will reveal your name, card number and account number. Chequebooks also pose a danger because they contain all the necessary information for a successful fraud. When writing a cheque, always try to ensure no one can read the details, and if you lose a chequebook or bank card, report it immediately to the bank.

If you use a telephone banking service and call regularly from your office, make sure no one can overhear. There is increasing evidence of colleagues listening in to passwords and accessing their fellow-workers' cash.

Always check your regular account statements. Though banks have to ensure that they have processed only the requests you have made, standing order frauds can go unrecognised unless identified by the customer. If a standing order has changed, or is activated for the first time, then some banks will flag the transaction on the statement.

Ask for dual signatures on any joint accounts. Most joint accounts can be accessed with a single signature, which can often lead to misery when a relationship breaks up. It is not unknown for one partner to clear out the funds or run up huge debts. Where only one signature is required, banks are legally obliged to pay out the money. Getting both partners to sign the cheques is cumbersome, but is the only sure way of ensuring your money is fully protected. If you suspect that you are the victim of a fraud, or even just maladministration, do not hesitate to complain to your bank. The bank is bound to put right any mistake it has made and reimburse the customer, including payments for any loss of interest. However, banks can be unwilling to listen, and it may take months of constant pressure for a bank to admit it has made an error.

TCL STOCK DIRECTORY



Chequebooks contain all the information needed by a trickster

Should the bank refuse to accept your claim, then refer your case to the Banking Ombudsman, an independent arbitrator of disputes. He has the power to force the bank to recompense victims of fraud and maladministration and can make awards of up to £100,000.

Anybody making a claim should first obtain a "deadlock" letter from their bank saying that it has looked at the complaint and is not taking any action. This should be presented to the ombudsman within six months. Last year, the ombudsman handled more than 26,000 inquiries and carried out 674 investigations, finding in favour of the customer in around half of the cases.

Mortgages and lending top the complaints league, but gripes about "phantom withdrawals" from cash machines have fallen sharply. Chris Eadie, the Deputy Ombudsman, says the office has still to find one instance of a purely bogus cash machine withdrawal caused by bank error. He adds that complaints against banks have been declining since the mid-Nineties, partly because of the end of the recession and partly because "banks are taking a more realistic attitude to the fact that they may have made a mistake".

But such confidence is not shared by a number of action groups set up by aggrieved customers. The National Association of Bank Customers (NABC) says it receives up to 50 calls a day on complaints ranging from cheque clearing and overcharging through to one customer who suffered from a bogus £3,500 standing order.

Stuart Cliffe, of the NABC, says: "The ombudsman gets 20,000 calls a year, but investigates fewer than 1,000. That means 19,000 people are sent back to argue with the bank."

Banks are also able to sidestep complaints by claiming they are outside the Ombudsman's terms of reference. Mr Cliffe adds: "There is one glaring omission called 'commercial judgment'. It is wonderfully vague and allows a bank to rule out a complaint — why it refused a loan, for example — simply by saying it was on the grounds of commercial judgment."

The welter of mistakes has spawned a cottage industry of professional bank account watchers to act on behalf of aggrieved customers. One company, Patricia Griffiths Associates, charges 5 per cent of any write-off of debt or money recovered, and claims a 90 per cent-plus success rate.

Ms Griffiths says: "Banks still stonewall people with a promise that they will review a problem and get back with an answer. In 99 per cent of cases they come back and say they have found no basis for complaint. The best thing is to write to the bank chairman, who will pass it back to the branch who will then be more frightened and deal with it promptly."

Hopelessly devoted to going public



Sue and Paul Hutchins at home in Norfolk

However much one adores one's beloved, there is a point at which parading passion becomes embarrassing to observers.

Bill Frost reports

ALBAN DONOHOE PICTURE SERVICE



The extension on the Hutchinses' house with its loving message spelt out in dark tiles. "He's a real old softie," Mrs Hutchins says of her husband

Some three centuries ago, Shah Jehan, the Mogul Emperor, spent a year with his architects designing the Taj Mahal as a public tribute to a favourite wife. Earlier this month, Paul Hutchins, a do-it-yourself enthusiast from rural Norfolk, devoted an afternoon to planning a similarly conspicuous demonstration of undying adoration, albeit on a slightly more modest scale.

The Emperor's Taj complex on the southern bank of the Jumna River in India took 22 years to complete, while the labour of love of his fellow incorrigible romantic was done and dusted in a day. Millions may have viewed the majestic marble mausoleum on the river's edge at Agra, but now hundreds of Swaffham motorists driving past the Hutchinses' home can see how 31-year-old Paul has spelt out "I love Sue" in contrasting tiles on the roof of their newly built extension.

"The words will not be there for ever, because weathering will eventually turn all the tiles dark. But, although the message will fade, my love for Sue will not. I love doing little romantic things," he says.

Unlike the Emperor's wife, dead for 23 years by the time her husband's work was completed, Mrs Hutchins can pass judgment on Paul's work. "It was a total surprise and I was really gobsmacked — but touched as well that he had done it. Paul is a true romantic and a real old softie at heart," she says.

While the emperor's late wife would almost certainly agree, the rest of us sometimes feel slightly unsettled by the public posturing of those willing to shout their love from the rooftops. However much one adores one's beloved, surely there is a point at which parading passion becomes a sacrifice of privacy and, worse, downright embarrassing to observers subjected to the display.

And let the flaunters be warned, embarrassment is not necessarily confined to those who watch. The curse of the publicly cute couple — particularly those who sell a picture-spread with mawkish quotes to *Hello!* — has claimed many an apparently happy relationship. Just ask Bill Wyman, the former Rolling Stone, or Mandy Smith, the child bride he wooed and lost after they told the world that they had never been happier.

Richard Gere and Cindy Crawford may also regret their "personal statement" in *The Times* four years ago. A counterblast to a "very crude, ignorant and libellous article in a French tabloid", the full-page advertisement triggered cynicism. "We got married because we love each other and decided to make a life together," said the actor and the supermodel. "There are no plans, nor have there ever been any plans for divorce.

"We remain very married. We both look forward to having a family . . . marriage is hard enough without all this negative speculation." While the couple's fans and admirers squirmed, the lawyers prepared for the inevitable separation. Not long after the dust had settled, the marriage was over.



Posh Spice with fiancé David Beckham

Pamela Anderson, the *Baywatch* babe, and Tommy Lee, the rock musician, allowed the world to witness their stormy courtship, even displaying tattoos expressing eternal devotion. Perhaps something less permanent and specific — love, hate or mum — would have been more appropriate, for the relationship was to deteriorate dramatically once the fates had been tempted and we less demonstrative souls had been driven mad by their effusions of love.

It is not that public declarations of love are entirely tasteless (although some are). Rather it is that, if things subsequently go wrong, the humiliation will inevitably be greater. Consider the smug confidence of Sonny and Cher when they sang *I Got You, Babe* — horrible at the time and tragic in retrospect.

Airport arrival photographs of Posh Spice Victoria Adams and David Beckham flaunting a flashy enagagement ring she'd bought him abroad, and priced beyond the reach of most lovebirds, also presaged an unforeseen disaster. Customs and Excise saw the pictures and Victoria had to pay the duty.

And, in the run-up to the World Cup, pictures of Beckham in a designer sarong — arm-in-arm with Posh — were apparently enough to infuriate Glenn Hoddle. The player's insouciant smile, the closeness between the couple, and a whiff of showbiz self-awareness made the England coach doubt Beckham's commitment to his responsibilities for a while and he put him through the mangle.

So is it possible to make a public romantic gesture which is thoughtful without being toe-curling? Many would say flowers are the answer. In spring last year a dual carriageway embankment in Essex exploded with daffodils spelling out a floral message. "Clive and Hilary", the flowers said in letters several feet high. Inside a heart sat the initials CK and HV.

It must have taken Clive, or Hilary, hours of painstaking work to plant the bulbs. And the fact that they needed to be planted in the autumn when they were dormant means he or she must have been pretty confident that the relationship would last.

Neither Clive nor Hilary has ever been identified but such devotion surely deserves to last.

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'I can't relate to the things men do'

Rosalind Mitchell, a 43-year-old Labour councillor was born a man. Last year she decided to change sex. Interview by **Lucy Hawking**



Rosalind Mitchell says surgery to change her irreversibly from being a man is a correction of nature

The lady loves champagne, flowers and opera. She enjoys books and shopping; her interests include politics and media studies. She would love to meet a sensitive, like-minded male — which, until last year, is exactly what she was. For Rosalind Mitchell, Labour local councillor and looking for love, used to be a man.

Last autumn she took the first public steps of her transgender journey by arriving at a Labour Party meeting in Bristol wearing a dress. Bewildered colleagues stifled their initial surprise; their only question was how they should address the lady in their midst. The public transition from David to Rosalind seemed to have gone remarkably smoothly, though later the cracks in the party's caring-sharing face would start to show.

The decision to bring out the frock was, of course, in no way sudden. Rosalind, born David Spry to working-class parents in Cumbria, had struggled with a split identity for decades. "I was first aware of it when I was five," she recalls in her demure, if rather low, voice. "I couldn't respond to other boys. All my friends before school were girls. I can remember dreaming of being a girl and thinking it was a natural thing to be."

While being a girl may be natural, becoming one is a daunting and difficult process. For Rosalind is not a transvestite, a man who seeks sexual gratification by wearing women's clothing, but a transsexual, "somebody who has the physical attributes of one sex and the mental and emotional ones of the other". She intends to change her entire physical make-up until it resembles, as closely as possible, that of a woman. "Being a woman means that people will respond to me in the way I can respond to them. Being a man relates not only to being physically male but being mentally and emotionally male as well. I can't relate to the things that men do and the things they expect me to do," says Rosalind.

Forcing her body to submit to the changes her mind demands is an arduous process. Each detail of appearance represents a hard-won victory: hormone treatment to develop the body — she now wears a 38B bra — and face shape; drugs to rid her of testosterone; speech therapy to take the boom out of her voice box; and hours of electrolysis.

"Imagine being stung by bees for an hour," she says. "That is what electrolysis is like." In contrast to her smooth chin, a tuft of hair remains under her nose, too agonising, apparently, to shift.

It is not the only giveaway. Rosalind's masculine attributes are indelible, seen in the height, the ungainly posture, the broad shoulders, long arms and large, heavily veined hands. There is an unkind incongruity between the lightly made-up face — blusher, lipstick and some clumped powder — and her long nose and bushy eyebrows.



As she was: David Spry

Clad in a hot pink jacket with a dark printed dress, sheer tights and sandals, Rosalind rummages in a capacious white handbag, fishes out a packet of cigarettes and lights up when she remembers what comes next. On October 31, after four and a half hours of surgery at a cost of £9,000, she will irreversibly change gender. The details of the operation are not for the squeamish; suffice to say that by the end of it, Rosalind will have an approximation of female genitals, fashioned out of the remains of her male ones. So effective is this method that Rosalind says other post-operative transsexuals have had sex with men who have been completely unaware that their partner was once a man.

Rosalind is adamant that she is not flying in the face of nature. "I have a disability," she insists. The surgery will be, she says, a correction of nature and not a perversion of it. "I have no doubt that this is the right thing to do. I have never wavered."

But waver is exactly what 43-year-old Rosalind — or rather David — has done for most of his life. In 1982, David abandoned his first wife and small daughter. "I never felt right about fatherhood." Rosalind says in a BBC2 documentary about her life, to be shown next week. "It's one of those things I can't explain but I'm afraid to say I walked out on the marriage and I walked out on this child I adored. It's still very painful to me."

Moving to Cambridge to start a new life, David suffered a breakdown. "I tried everything," confesses Rosalind. "I had relationships with women, I had my first gay relationship. I was attracted to the idea of men but found I couldn't have a man-to-man relationship. It only worked if I took on a female role."

The signs were there but David, too terrified to admit his glimmering idea of the problem, went into denial. "I took a bus to Yarmouth with a bottle of whisky and intended to walk into the sea," says Rosalind sadly. "Emotionally, I was exhausted."

After that incident, David was taken to hospital and then returned to his mother, now living in Hitchin. Gradually, he pulled himself back together, and in 1985, after meeting Mary, an older, open-minded American, he felt confident enough to embark on a second marriage and life in London. "I was quite open about the transsexualism," says Rosalind, "and Mary was broad-minded enough to allow the gender thing to go on in the house."

But David's casework as a councillor in West London was increasingly bringing him in contact with transsexuals. "As they told me their stories I thought 'Here's someone telling me my story. They're telling me what I am'."

The strain of David's fascination with transsexualism and his renewed identity crisis eventually pulled the couple apart; they separated in 1993. Seeking yet another new life, David moved to Bristol. "I gave myself one last chance to live as a man." To no avail — through what his psychiatrist calls part of a male mid-life crisis — "a female crossover where they need to express themselves as the woman they feel themselves to be" — David decided to become Rosalind, a name that he had cherished since childhood.

Through all these years there continued a constant thread — other than the growing distress at sexual identity — which was David and now Rosalind's allegiance to the Labour Party. As branch secretary in Cambridge, a councillor in Kensington and Chelsea and now a councillor and chairman of the local area planning committee in Bristol, he had created a public role for himself.

This made his eventual decision, in 1997, to become the woman he felt he was, all the more difficult and courageous. The introverted, stuffy world of local politics, under the eye of the media, is a precarious place to effect such a controversial change. The initial reaction of the Bristol Labour Party seemed favourable. "The party has been very supportive," insists Rosalind. "I took it to the party officials and they had no objections."

But a well-publicised spat in March with the women's section, when it refused to allow Rosalind to participate in its AGM, suggests otherwise. The Bristol Labour Party is hardly alone in this quandary. Many people find transsexualism at best an uncomfortable subject to contemplate, and find transsexuals in the flesh disturbing parodies of the female sex. Rosalind herself finds men calling to her in the street saying "Oi! You! You used to be a man!" But Rosalind, seeing herself as a role-model for transsexuals, hopes this attitude will in time become as outdated as homophobia or sexual discrimination. With Rosalind Mitchell aiming to become head of a big local authority — and with Israel's Dana International storming the charts as a result of her Eurovision Song Contest win — it seems that, for the first time, transsexuals are gaining prominent roles in society.

Or is it the first time? Is Rosalind Mitchell the first transsexual in politics? "As far as we know," she smirks, clutching her handbag.

● Home Ground: New Labour, New Woman *will be shown on BBC2 on July 7 at 7.30pm.*

Invasion of the rice cake

The rice cake is a handy-looking little object. It has plenty of practical uses. You could, say, line an ill-fitting shoe with it. You could crumble it and use it to pack fine china. You could stick lots of them together and make a waterproof hat. Or, silliest of all, you could eat it.

Many people do. Some have a good excuse — sufferers from gluten allergies have taken to rice cakes as a way to emulate the forbidden sandwich, or to give themselves a pale imitation of cake proper. Unless a coeliac disease epidemic is sweeping the nation, however, the signs are that others are eating them, and doing so by choice. Britons buy some three million packets of rice cakes a year, a figure that a mere allergy can't explain away.

Vanity is a more likely answer to the cake conundrum. Rice cakes are low in calories, from seven to 20 a slice, depending on size. No respectable diet plan is now complete without stern instructions to fill your mouth with rice-rubble a few times a day. Take, for example, the Day Dream Diet, which exhorts you to change your thinking in order to change your physical appearance. It prescribes specific daydreams to have at strategic intervals throughout the day, followed by eating instructions. The mid-morning dream focuses on empowerment and dynamism. Then it tells you wake to up and have a rice cake. How bathetic — the disappointment alone could unhinge you.

New Fergie and her slimline figure for the Weight Watchers' job are a rice-cake triumph. The waiting rooms of model agencies crackle with the sound of nervous rice-cake rustling. Crisp-avoiders and reformed chocoholics eat them in the hope of staving off the craving for more enjoyable, more fattening, substances.

These people must be impervious to the dangers of dieting. Last new year in Japan — the country responsible for the rice cake, the tamagotchi, the game show *Endurance* and now global economic collapse — eight people died by choking on festive rice cakes.



The rice cake is catching on

Tony Blair had the right idea on a recent trip to Tokyo. He pounded the gooey dough used in traditional rice cakes with a huge mallet. With this bashing of the inspiration for the modern puffed rice tablet, he took culinary revenge for Britain.

Nonetheless, the rice cake is catching on. Another pointless icon for the 1990s, a symbol of our vapidity, perhaps, or our intrinsic lack of content? Or a marker of a national obsession with cellulite?

In thousands of years' time, archaeologists will find a pristine rice cake. After analysing it they will form their opinions of what life on earth was like in the late 1990s, and conclude that ecological disasters caused a terrible famine to rage through the land, and that inhabitants resorted to chewing on lumps of loft insulation to stay alive.

But the makers of rice cakes have heard all this before. They know that nobody actually likes their product, but they have patiently continued to puff up bits of rice and glue them together.

All the insults, all the names have slid off them like smoked salmon and cream cheese off a canapé cracker at a drinks party. Why would they care? For decades they have successfully sold nothing as something, we have bought it and they have grown fat on the profit.

LUCY HAWKING

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Little C and the terracotta warriors

Touchy-feely Bill Clinton finds young Chinese think elders know better, says **Bronwen Maddox**

Watching President Clinton reach out to stroke the stony face of a terracotta warrior, a day into this extraordinary state visit, I reckoned he might be feeling bereft of the hugs and handshakes which normally fuel his expeditions. At that point, his affectionate gesture to the 2,000-year-old relic was the closest he'd come to any Chinese figure below the level of mayor.

After his electrifying speech on Monday to Peking University students, broadcast live across the country, the White House has cheered up. Mr Clinton's gift for intimacy with strangers, which has brought him all the political prizes of his life — and most of the scandals — has won through, it feels.

That "chemistry", with both President Jiang Zemin and with ordinary people, is the Washington camp's best case for calling this summit a success despite few tangible results. Yet as we coast into the home stretch, I find myself wincing at the wishful thinking of the delegation. They are sweating in their efforts to be "culturally sensitive" but still seem the prisoner of a peculiarly American vocabulary: of relationships, of personal growth and of individual rights. If these notions were as international as Mr Clinton makes out, there would be more reason to read this week's startling events as marking a profound change.

Hollywood 'chemistry' overcomes all barriers? I doubt it

China does not play to Mr Clinton's strengths, it must be said. His recent African trip yielded, again and again, that classic Clinton picture: the huge head and shoulders rising above the crowd as hands stretch towards him, like a recreation of the Statue of Liberty. Here, there has been no one to touch. In Tiananmen Square, crowds were kept half a mile away as soldiers with fixed bayonets goose-stepped over the desolate expanse. By Saturday lunchtime, the imagery beamed home threatened disaster.

Then the mood swung round, largely because of China's startling decision to broadcast Saturday's joint press conference and the Peking University speech. These were extraordinary events. Chinese people heard taboo subjects debated, from Tiananmen to the Dalai Lama — a shock to many brought up to believe he is a monster.

I have no doubt that the President's direct, personal appeal has been received with real excitement by many Chinese. His message has also been given extra clout by the Asian financial crisis, which has made cronyism and corruption a less convincing route to prosperity. The nuclear tests by India and Pakistan have also helped to convince China's leaders of the value of arms control. Chinese tolerance for these lectures six months ago might have been much more brittle.

But the US team has drawn too much comfort from the apparent warmth of Mr Clinton's reception. It has been keen to say that, as Mr Jiang gave the go-ahead to the broadcasts, he must be confident of his position. It read the presence of all members of the Politburo standing committee at Saturday night's dinner, which followed Mr Clinton's remarks on Tiananmen, as a sign that hardliners are not about to undermine their President. But the fact is that the stability of the country remains fragile. As unemployment rises, the sunniness of Mr Jiang, let alone his colleagues, may cloud over.

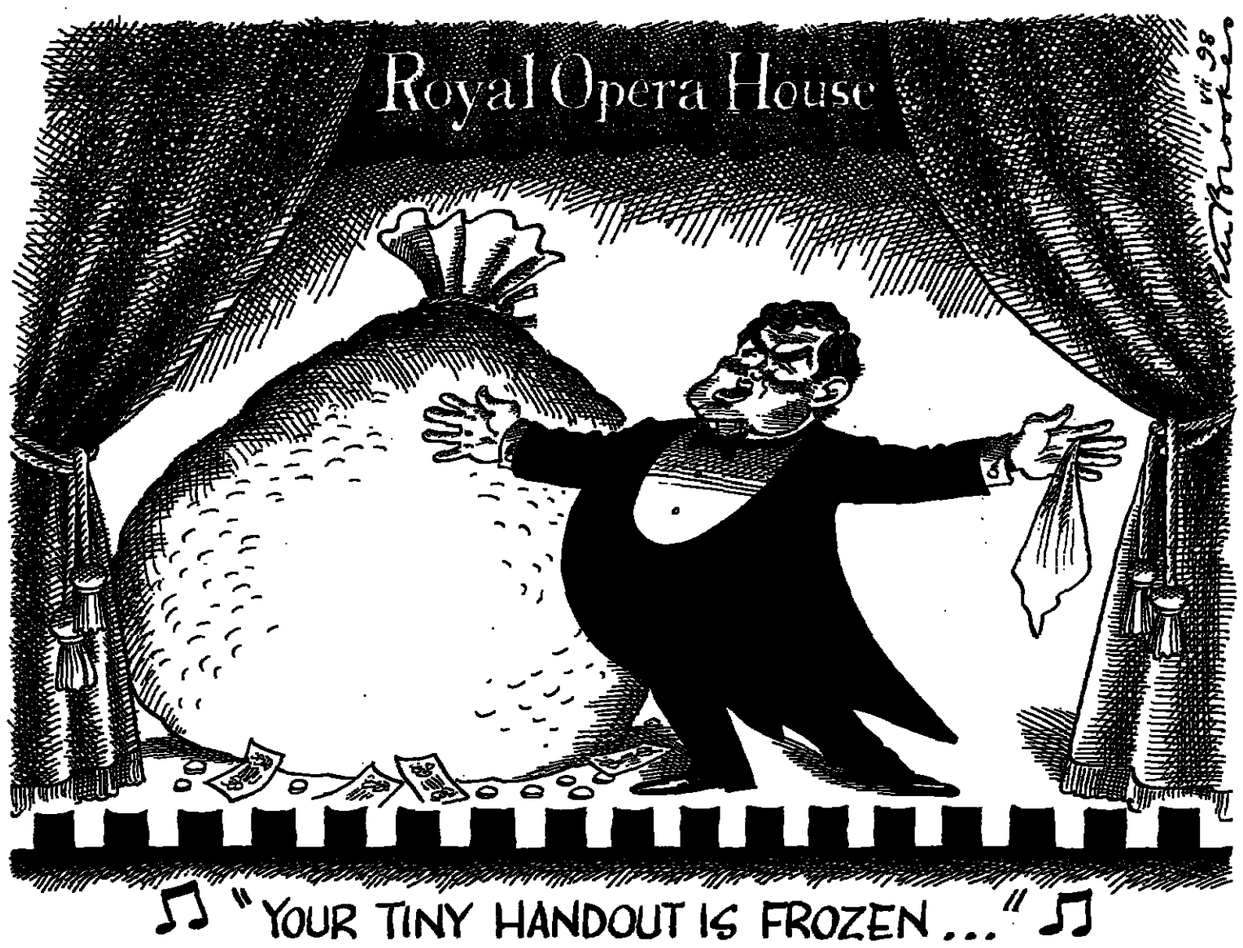
It is also disingenuous to call the broadcasts a great victory for US diplomacy. The White House gave away many cards before knowing that the transmission would go ahead, accepting the bar on three journalists from Radio Free Asia, the US-backed service, and refraining from meeting dissidents.

But the Americans' greatest indulgence is in embracing the "chemistry" metaphor for the Clinton-Jiang relationship. It is to give a Hollywood spin to the encounter. As in the film *Titanic*, two characters are taken to stand for two incompatible worlds. Then they fall for each other, and the gulf vanishes. A good love story overcomes any obstacle.

Maybe. But I doubt it. Mr Clinton's nickname in some Beijing circles is "the Little C", a diminutive which is a reminder that in a country which reveres age, boyish enthusiasm may not be a plus. He believes in the all-American notion of constantly reinventing yourself: as he joked in Shanghai yesterday, "I'm not too old to learn". Then you're too young to lecture us, might be the retort.

We heard that touchy note when students attacked Mr Clinton for imperialism. Peking University may have been the cradle of the 1989 democracy movement but these days, if students lift their heads from their MBAs, they are as likely to come out with a fluent new brand of nationalism. At their invitation, Mr Clinton made a lengthy self-criticism, flagellating himself for the American curses of race and crime. In the best liberal spirit, he thought he was having a dialogue; they thought they were recapturing lost territory of national pride.

With Mr Jiang, Mr Clinton may have hit it off as well as he believes, particularly if the next few weeks pass without a new round-up of dissidents. We might come to look back on this week as a real turning point. But even among young people, Bill Clinton's natural constituency, we saw this week more suspicion — even hostility — than he had expected. Many in China, I'm afraid, will for years respond as much to his eager courtship as would a terracotta warrior.



Smith wins the House

Covent Garden trumps the Treasury – but Mr Blair has found his bastards

Simon Jenkins

Has Tony at last has found his "bastards"? At Monday's top-secret arts summit at Downing Street, the Prime Minister listened in silence as the kings of whinge went on parade, led by the Tate Gallery's Sir Dennis Stevenson. It was a turnout of the old guard. Sir Richard Eyre demanded money for opera, Sir Simon Rattle demanded money for music, the National Gallery demanded money for free entry, Lord Bragg demanded state jobs for media graduates. As the moan continued, Mr Blair adopted his ominous "listening" mode. He counted flies on the ceiling and mentally swatted each one.

These people represented those who had been friends. Some had given him money. He had given them quangos. He had given them more coats of arms, 24 peerages and knighthoods in a year, than any comparable group. Cool Britannia was draped in more ermine than Lloyd George's cronies. They had now been granted "Formula One" access. And they wanted more. They were worse than the farmers. Bill Clinton handled these things better. When he got to office, he promptly sent his buddies abroad as ambassadors. How about Lord Puttnam of Paraguay, or Lord Rogers of Rwanda, or Lord Bragg of Benin?

The treatment of the Labour Government by the arts lobby has been a crime against the god Gratitude. Labour's favourite industry, the movies, has received £90 million of taxpayers' money. More is on its way. The Arts Council current subsidy may have been frozen (tough but hardly a catastrophe), but its capital subsidy has soared. The lottery must now be sponsoring more art than Ludwig of Bavaria. There is not an institution without a gong on its chairman, a millionaire on its board and a crane and concrete mixer in its backyard. Now Mr Blair faces the biggest concrete mixer of them all, Covent Garden, playing the old trick.

I am told Mr Blair reacted on Monday much as Al Capone did when the Lower West Side mob expressed "unhappiness" over the Toronto sarsaparilla shipment. It is a moment in politics when hands move quickly to jacket pockets and birthday invitations are declined. The Treasury's comprehensive spending review is now in draft and dripping acid. The tough view is that the arts get too much already from the lottery. As for Covent Garden, it appears nowhere on any focus group scanner. You could cut the price of the Royal Box to zero and advertise it in *The Big Issue*, and still nobody would notice. Politically speaking, subsidising Covent Garden is on Planet Zog.

Now we have the Eyre report. I have to admit it is a classic everyday story of Establishment folk. Covent Garden is bankrupt, except that no arts body is ever bankrupt, merely "underfunded". Every year the opera's management says, oops, we did not see the red ink, then demands and gets more money. Last month its latest chairman, Sir Colin Southgate, wrote to the Government demanding a doubling of his annual grant to £30 million, or he would not open the £200 million new building given to him in large part by the Arts Council. How that council can have paid the opera house a grant without a business plan is a mystery, best explained by the Oedipal relationship between the two. In this game nobody is accountable.

Covent Garden is as adept as the BBC or the Navy at turning its guardians into natives on the spot. For a brief moment under the new Government, privatisation of one or other of Covent Garden and the Coliseum was mooted. But the Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, scotched that option by appointing businessmen to chair the opera house and the Arts Council, Sir Colin Southgate and Gerry Robinson, and by appointing Sir Richard Eyre to report. The iron law of such pseudo-delegation is that you know exactly what advice such appointees will give.

The definition of a successful businessman is someone who knows how to get money out of the Treasury. It took Sir Colin just two months to demand that his subsidy be doubled. Nor would Mr Smith have appointed Sir Richard Eyre if he had wanted Covent Garden privatised or merged. For such advice he would have asked Ian Albery or Harvey Goldsmith or Raymond Gubbay. Instead he asked the doyen of subsidy, Sir Richard. Just to make sure, Mr Smith deputed his own officials to write Sir Richard's report. He knew what he was about.

We must remember that Covent Garden is not just a spectacular opera house. It is a Class A, blue-chip, ironclad British institution. It is the World Cup squad of the chattering class, the Ascot of the Puccini set. For years the Cabinet Secretary sat on its board, blithely disregarding any conflict of interest. As fast as money walked out of the back door in Spanish practices, it walked in the front in, subsidy. The artistic and craft unions refused recording rights. They fought television access. Their antics would still bring tears to the eyes of Fleet Street's old Sogat and Natsopa. But the board lay on its back and the Government mainlined it on subsidy. Squeezing deficit finance out of the Arts Council might be hell; it was easier by far than squeezing costs out of the unions. Stravinsky said that music was the best way of digesting time. Covent Garden was the best way of digesting money.

You or I might hazard the view that the Covent Garden board has "lost the contract" to manage the new house. It should be granted to Glyndebourne or the Welsh National Opera. We might offer the Coliseum to Garsington or Opera North. The Culture Department has appointed itself franchise director for what is a nationalised duopoly, London grand opera. Should not the contracts change occasionally? Besides, nobody knows what is the "right" cost of grand opera. We do not know how crucial to audience appeal is a salaried orchestra and chorus, or a £250,000 set, or hand-stitched costumes. We do not know because nobody has ever defied the unions in the West End to see what opera's real unit costs might be. Such questions are derided as anti-art.

A different Eyre report might have advocated denationalisation. It could have been one line long: "Don't ask me, ask the Arts Council: it's their mess." Or Sir Richard could have said, "Pay up to get Sir Colin into the new house, then dump him on the mayor of London." He could even have proposed that all institutional subsidy should revert to local government, which might or might not choose to levy extra taxes to pay for it. That is what most countries do. But Treasury dogma stands in the way of this safety valve for arts subsidy. Gordon Brown is as fanatical on rate-capping as were his Tory predecessors.

Instead Sir Richard (and his Whitehall authors) takes his cue from Priestley, Warnock, Walker-Arnot and all other Covent Garden crisis reports. They heap abuse on the management and board, tell them to cut costs and slap their wrists for poor marketing. In this game, you cannot make omelettes without breaking egos. But then comes salvation. The Government must pay up. Eyrism is the price of a higher grant, as Birtism is the price of the BBC's index-linked poll tax, or the Defence Review the price of the Navy's new carriers. That is how we do things in Britain. We are deeply conservative about institutions but, as Voltaire said, we shoot a few admirals to encourage the others.

Mr Smith has given the operas a month to react. In reality he has given the Treasury a month to pay up. I find it hard to see how the Treasury can resist. Mr Smith has pulled off a remarkable coup. This esoteric art form will remain in its present hands with higher grant. It may even win more to reduce gallery ticket prices for a handful of "the people", and thus soothe wealthier consciences in the stalls below. But something must be done. The place is bankrupt. Eyre is the only solution on offer. A fine new opera house is going up, and nobody buys a Rolls-Royce and then refuses to fill its tank. Nor is it thinkable that opera should be removed from the Coliseum. Both places are enjoyed by senior Labour supporters, whom ministers and their wives still meet at parties. The glue will hold. The Eyre report will be implemented. Covent Garden will get enough money to reopen and fight another day.

But the rest of the arts will pay a terrible price. Mr Capone is not happy. Mr Capone does not forget.

Alan Coren



A commoner of Cricklewood has rights – and wrongs

It has recently been borne in upon me that for a man of my advanced years never to have bothered to take a close squint at the legislative particulars of his parish is as foolish as indolence gets. For, hard though it may be for you to believe, I have spent half those years in the ancient purlieu of Cricklewood without once ambling round to the Town Hall to examine the vellum scrolls on which the rights of Cricklewood citizens are inscribed. I do not even know when the inscriptions took place, or under whose aegis the scriveners toiled: some might have scribbled for Aethelred, some for Cnut, others for Harold Harefoot, all men with notoriously greedy ways and therefore much given to ceding civil concessions in return for pelf and virgins.

It could well be that, as a freeholder of Cricklewood, I am entitled to graze my goats along the verges of the A41, or claim a firkin of Maundy malmsey from Tesco's, or tether my horse to the Cricklewood Jobcentre throughout the passage of two full moons. I might, who knows, be franchised to fly my hawks in Gladstone Park or to claim droit de seigneur during the hours of daylight on the Burger King forecourt. But I do not know these things, since I have never bothered to consult the scrolls. I am a fool to myself.

Why, then, have these matters been, as I say, borne in upon me now? Because of my wheelie-bin. Every Wednesday morning, I, in common with my neighbours, comply with the recent legislation under which the Cricklewood householder is required to wheel his rubbish to the perimeter of his property to await collection. Once, we all had dustbins and the binmen came down our paths, but now we trundle to and fro in harmony, meeting halfway. And every Wednesday night, we wheel our bins back in and lock the garage door after them.

Last Wednesday night, I went out to wheel mine back and found it as heavy as when I'd wheeled it out. It had not been emptied. Kipper hung heavy in the evening air. So I left it where it was, and next morning phoned the Council Refuse Dept, who promised to consult the files and ring back. This she eventually did, to inform me that, according to the chief binman's report, "the receptacle was found to be within the householder's curtilage, and thus beyond the collection remit of our operatives." I told her I knew nothing of curtilages, only that my bin had been left where it had always been left. She said an inspector would call. The bin remained out on Thursday night. He must have called on Friday, because the woman I shall ever think of as the Head Refusenik rang again in the afternoon to say that the inspector's report confirmed that my bin-wheels were not on the pavement, ie, beyond my curtilage. If I rectified this, she would arrange collection on Saturday. And yes, I did ask why the inspector had not himself pushed the bin two inches so that it straddled my curtilage, and she said that pushing receptacles did not fall within an inspector's remit. So it stayed out on Friday night, too.

It was not alone in this. Also staying out on Friday night was a person who breaks into cars and runs off with their radios. I discovered this on Saturday morning when I went out through the garage to see whether my bin was now empty. What I saw was that my car was now empty. So I called the police, and the three of us stood around for a bit considering how the thief had managed to overcome the impregnability of the front of the house and enter via the pregnable garage door at the back. The bit ended when one of the coppers asked how long the wheelie-bin had been out front. I told him. He peered at it. He informed me that it had been stood on. There was a dent. He explained to me that bins should be always be brought in on collection night, so that villains couldn't stand on them to climb on to garage roofs. He glanced at his colleague, to allow something unspoken to pass between them. So I told them about councils and curtilages. They told me that it was down to householders to apprise themselves of such information. It was all up the Town Hall.

So, after 30 years, I shall. There is, after all, a 1,000-to-one chance that the thief will be caught, and it is just possible that Eadwig or Harthacnut once granted local citizenry the right to give a villain a seeing-to with a red-hot poker. You never know, in Cricklewood.

Digging deep

IS THERE such a thing as horticultural plagiarism? I ask because the winner of this year's Best Garden at the Chelsea Flower Show seems uncannily similar to a garden featured in a well-known book. The design by Lady Lennox-Boyd, the wife of Sir Mark, formerly PPS to Margaret Thatcher, seems inspired by a Belgian garden by Jacques Wirtz, pictured in *The Water Gardener*.

Since winning a gold medal, Lady Lennox-Boyd has flourished. She is said to be in the running for a job as a gardening columnist on *The Sunday Telegraph*. Sir Mark Lennox-Boyd, speaking for his wife, says: "We have both heard these ugly rumours and seen the book with the picture of the Belgian garden in it. But to call it a copy is a complete travesty."

The Royal Horticultural Society says: "We have seen the picture in *The Water Gardener* and there are some areas of similarity. She may have been inspired by the Belgian garden but she is not compelled to say so. I don't think I've ever heard of copyright on garden designs."

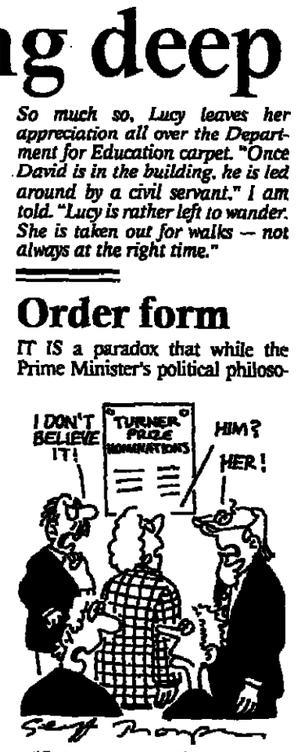
● *DAVID BLUNKETT'S dog clearly enjoys life in government. So much so, Lucy leaves her appreciation all over the Department for Education carpet. "Once David is in the building, he is led around by a civil servant," I am told. "Lucy is rather left to wander. She is taken out for walks — not always at the right time."*

Order form

IT IS a paradox that while the Prime Minister's political philosophy is not as deep as some would like, his religious faith seems to soar ever higher. Tony Blair, I hear, has sent a letter of congratulation to an obscure Roman Catholic order called the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement which boasts only two active members in Britain. Why? First, because one of those members happens to be the admirable Father Michael Seed, Catholic converter to the landed and political classes. Secondly, because the order was originally Anglican but converted to Catholicism *en masse* in 1909. The PM is still notionally Anglican but seems tempted to walk to Rome.

His excuse for the letter is to mark the centenary of the order, based in New York. Even worldwide it can claim only 150 friars, who look after HIV and alcoholic types, not normally the sorts to interest the PM. Is it not time for him to put shallow political considerations aside, and declare himself our first modern Catholic PM?

● *THIS could make a few ambassadors choke on their Darjeeling. Derek Fatchett, the Foreign Office Minister, suggested at a conference yesterday that our men abroad should be paid according to how much we export to the country where they are posted. No takers for Mozambique, then.*



"It's a conversation piece"

Own goal

THE most melancholy faces on the terraces last night were not in St-Etienne but in Bordeaux. Corporate swanks who brew Carling Black Label (sponsors of the Premier League) booked advance tickets for the match. Confidently, they predicted that England would win its group, which would mean playing the first game of the knockout section in Bordeaux. Unfortunately, they did not figure on Romania beating England, thus consigning Glenn Hoddle and the boys to a tricky contest against Argentina in St-Etienne. This left executives committed to a less tantalising — but still expensive — trip to watch Romania take on Croatia.

● *WAS the hullabaloo about Fay Weldon's alleged comments on rape mistaken? The author says she has been misinterpreted and tells me: "A woman who has been raped is not disgraced. She has been assaulted ... This is why comes of talking about rape to a male journalist. For all I care, rapists can be strung up from lampposts. Rape is a banal, evil and hideous assault. It is a perversion of sex. No penalities could be enough." Pretty clear, I think.*

JASPER GERARD



Welsh songs are an acquired taste. Sympathy, then, for Antonio Banderas. He has just endured weeks of listening to Catherine Zeta Jones and Anthony Hopkins singing between takes of *Zorro*. As well as being "baffled by their strange language", the swarthy Latino seems to have been eclipsed by the charm of the lilting Welshman. "Tony brought his portable piano on location, so he had me singing," says Miss ZJ. "I always thought Tony was so sexy. You only have to look into his eyes and he can have anything he wants." If Banderas is at a loose end, the Diary Towers tweenie will sing a duet with him.

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WESTLAND REVISITED

Cook should not obstruct parliamentary scrutiny

The mechanics of the arms-to-Africa affair have invited comparison to the Matrix Churchill saga. The politics of this controversy are coming to resemble the Westland debacle. Twelve years ago the future of a small West Country helicopter manufacturer forced ministerial resignations and prompted a bitter clash between the Government and the House of Commons Defence Select Committee. It is far too early to tell whether Foreign Office activities concerning Sierra Leone will lead to politicians returning their red boxes. It seems, however, from the decisions of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee yesterday that constitutional conflict is now inevitable.

These events were triggered by Robin Cook's own letter to the select committee. His text was abrasive in tone and deficient in a number of details. This is typical of the fashion in which the Foreign Secretary has conducted himself throughout his time in office. He told the committee that it should not investigate the Sandline story until the internal inquiry headed by Sir Thomas Legg had ended. He demanded that he and not his officials should be subjected to further cross-examination. He also made it clear that the committee could not inspect Foreign Office telegrams. "There was no ministerial conspiracy to breach the arms embargo: there was no connivance within Whitehall to breach the arms embargo": that was his conclusion.

The Foreign Affairs Select Committee has decided that it will not be browbeaten by Mr Cook. It is hard to see how it could have reached any other conclusion and retained its credibility. Sir John Kerr, the Foreign Office Permanent Under-Secretary, was duly hauled up before the assembled MPs but was barely more forthcoming than on his last appearance. The Foreign Secretary will shortly return to confront an increasingly angry select committee. The matter of the unseen telegrams remains unresolved.

Mr Cook has no right to set a select committee's agenda. The Foreign Secretary has accused the committee of seeking to "duplicate" and "prejudice" the Legg investigation. His claim is disingenuous. It has also been rendered ridiculous by his own assertion, in advance of the Legg report, that no minister or official was responsible for any misdemeanour. Sir Thomas Legg will concentrate on the procedural aspects of the Sandline melodrama. It is for him to determine whether officials have misrepresented their actions and whether ministers misled Parliament. He will not, and should not, pass judgment on the quality of political management at the Foreign Office.

That is the proper territory of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee. It can hardly take this on if the only figure empowered to elaborate on the Foreign Secretary's performance is Mr Cook himself. The committee should launch a formal investigation into all aspects of this affair. It should handle the matter of the telegrams with some sensitivity. These are different in character from official documents and often contain frank and rather colourful assessments of local political personalities. It would obviously be embarrassing if these impressions became public knowledge. The select committee could, however, empower its Chairman and an Opposition Privy Counsellor to screen the material and then produce an edited version for their colleagues.

In opposition Mr Cook was a passionate and persuasive advocate of parliamentary scrutiny. In office he appears to have mislaid those principles. It is perfectly possible for the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee to shape an inquiry that compliments rather than competes with the Legg investigation. The Foreign Secretary has stalled for long enough. He should start to co-operate fully with Parliament.

GRANDEES' OPERA

Britain can support only one great opera house

The drums have rolled, the strings have struck up, the curtain rises and . . . the stage is empty. Richard Eyre's long-awaited report on the future of opera and dance in London is as short on content as it is long on piety. The 150-page tome makes minor recommendations for better management of the existing three houses — Covent Garden, the Coliseum and Sadler's Wells — but ducks more radical solutions. In essence, the report calls for more of the same but with more public money.

Sir Richard's plea in his foreword for greater public funding of the arts is well-argued. Four consecutive years of real-terms cuts in revenue funding combined with lottery largesse have left arts organisations with gleaming palaces and blistering overdrafts. For a paltry sum in total public spending terms, the Government could ensure that British culture was healthy rather than ailing.

But Sir Richard's arguments are better in the general than the particular. The report recommends that, after management and operational improvements, lyric theatre in London should continue as before, but with a "substantial" increase in public subsidy. Yet within the arts budget, the case for opera receiving substantially more is at best thin. Already, Covent Garden attracts £14.4 million a year and has won £78 million from the lottery for its redevelopment. And politically, the art form is unpopular. Subsidy is intended to bring performances within the reach of audiences who might not otherwise experience them. Yet the Royal Opera House in particular has cultivated an exclusive image.

So is the answer privatisation: a Glyndebourne or a New York Met in the heart of London? Sir Richard rightly rules this out on economic grounds. Glyndebourne can afford to be wholly private not just because it charges exorbitant ticket prices. It has the advantage of playing a very short season with low fixed costs. The Met, by contrast, has 65 per cent more seats than even the new Royal Opera House, and also raises some $80 million a year — two thirds of its turnover — from private sponsorship and donations. These attract tax relief (effectively public spending) of more than $30 million, more than the annual subsidy paid to Covent Garden.

A more radical solution would be to concentrate London's opera on one site: Covent Garden. Sir Richard rejects this, but not all his reasons are sound. English National Opera, for instance, makes much of the accessibility of its productions, which are all sung in English. Sir Richard worries that this would be lost in Covent Garden. Yet, once sung, even English is hard to understand: surtitles are far easier. He also suggests that audiences are attached to their homes, adducing as evidence the fall-off when the Royal Opera left Covent Garden during redevelopment. Audiences may not enjoy trading down; but ENO's would surely relish trading up.

Most critically, Sir Richard fails to address the extra cost of ENO staying at the Coliseum. The building needs an enormous injection of capital; some £60 million at the last count. Sir Richard blithely suggests that the lottery should pay. But lottery funds are stretched too, and public support for spending yet more large sums on London opera would be negligible.

The Coliseum should be sold back to the private sector, to return to its roots as a commercial venue for musicals. Then ENO and the Royal Opera should share Covent Garden. Britain would not be much of a country if it could not support a great opera house. But it does not need to support two. Even opera-mad Italy has only one each in Milan and Rome. London can surely make do with the same.

KNOWN BUT TO GOD

The changing face of the Unknown Warrior

Between 1914 and 1918, the British Empire lost over a million dead. A third — 340,000, among them the writer Saki and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's older brother Fergus — simply disappeared, their grave markers shattered or their bodies ground into the earth. Sometimes bones and a scrap of uniform come to the surface; occasionally some freak of fortune — a ring that there was no time to send home, a tailor's label, a rotting identity disc — conjures up a name, a face, and family the fallen never knew. The Unknown Warrior, buried among Kings at Westminster Abbey, was conceived as a symbol of the immensity of this sacrifice.

The United States, with less than one per cent of our missing to commemorate, intended the Tomb in Arlington National Cemetery more as a place of pilgrimage for those whose loved ones remained overseas. It now houses casualties of other conflicts "Known But To God". But DNA testing has confirmed that the Vietnam Unknown is in fact US Air Force Lieutenant Michael J. Blassie, killed in action in 1972.

The notion of an Unknown Warrior seems out of date. The warrior may now be she rather than he, a fitter sort of civil servant, seen as a reflection of society rather than its protector. Yet it is the symbol of the Unknown Warrior that is the more dissonant. Death has become personal. The dead are no longer part of something greater — a cause, the elements, the cycle of life and death itself — but belong to those they leave behind.

The seamen of time immemorial have been content to consign their shipmates to the deep: now fishing communities launch appeals to raise their dead. The dead of a First Boer War battle were buried where they fell, their graves even now marked by a grove of cherry trees which grew from the fruit stuffed in their pockets; most of those killed in the Gulf are now scattered in churchyards around the country. Perhaps the transformation of Lieutenant Blassie's remains, from national symbol to object of private devotion, shows that the representative has lost its force.

Should he be replaced? A widow whose husband lies unmarked in France, the Philippines or Korea has only the Tomb as a focus for her grief. But the dead of Vietnam are commemorated in the most affecting memorial in Washington DC, their names engraved in the black marble of the Wall. That has become the place of pilgrimage for the Vietnam generation. There is little need to replace Lieutenant Blassie with another Unknown whom time and technology will eventually identify.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

When the interviews get tough, do ministers get going?

From the Chief Press Secretary at 10 Downing Street

Sir, I am well aware of the capacity of John Humphrys, Jeremy Paxman and Nick Clarke to promote themselves as fearless defenders of truth. However, I would like to take issue with parts of your analysis of the Government's relations with the BBC ("Ministers shun BBC inquisitors for chats on sofa", June 27).

The central claims, if I can paraphrase, were these: first, that because ministers sometimes reject bids from the BBC's flagship programmes, the Government's relations with the BBC are dire; and second, that ministers are running scared. Neither proposition is true.

Given the scale of the BBC's output, it is surprising how rarely we complain, or enter into controversy with them. In truth, relations between the Government and the BBC are perfectly good. As to the second point, your own report knocked this down in part by listing ministers who are on BBC current affairs programmes regularly.

But what your report failed to take account of was the effect of the ever growing media, allied to a growing interest abroad in Britain, on the demands on ministers' limited time. At the recent Cardiff summit there were literally dozens of interview bids for the Prime Minister. He took up 14 bids from overseas. He did the *Today* programme, BBC 9 O'clock News, BBC Wales and HTV. Dozens of others had to be disappointed.

On average, the *Today* programme bids for the Prime Minister around twice a week. It simply is not possible to meet that demand. Some programmes have standing bids, on a daily basis, and with the advent of Sky, News 24 and 5 Live and the growth in independent radio, the number of programmes bidding continues to mushroom.

Given the remarkable expansion in BBC programmes it would not be impossible for ministers to spend their entire time at 4 Millbank answering interview requests, and none at all doing their jobs.

Of course this means we can pick and choose, and we do. The *Today* programme remains a serious and important programme, so is likely to have the Prime Minister on regularly. Very few people — in politics or the media — take *The World at One* seriously, so such regular appearances are less likely. *Newsnight* is on late, with a dwindling audience. Any programme which has a habit of getting interviewees on one basis and then interviewing them on another is bound to have some effect on our judgment. As one minister said to me recently when I tried to get him to appear on the programme: "What is the point of traipsing out to W12 late at night so that Jeremy can try to persuade the public that I'm actually some kind of a criminal?"

As for daytime TV, these programmes are watched by millions of people, many of whom do not follow politics closely, and it is important that elected politicians continue to find ways of engaging them in the political process. None do so at the expense of more conventional political interviews. Just because daytime TV presenters ask questions which reflect what their audiences are interested in, it doesn't mean those questions are soft.

You report the BBC as being particularly appalled because we didn't field a minister to discuss *The Sun*'s "most dangerous man in Britain" editorial. Sorry, but we took the view that however obsessed the British media may be with itself, a national newspaper restating its view on EMU was not terribly newsworthy.

And finally, whichever BBC source suggested Jimmy Young is a soft interviewer clearly knows nothing about interviewing, and even less about Jimmy Young.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR CAMPBELL,
Chief Press Secretary,
10 Downing Street, SW1A 2AA.
June 29.

From Mr Andrew Wood

Sir, Is it simply coincidence that the individuals named in your report today are the very ministers — Harriet Harman, Clare Short, the Lord Chancellor, Gordon Brown — who have replaced their heads of information since new Labour came to power?

Four more years of underarm bowling from television's "sofa land" will do nothing for informed public debate and, ultimately, nothing for this Government's reputation.

It is at least reassuring that some of the Cabinet — Jack Straw, John Prescott, David Blunkett and Frank Dobson — are still willing to face tough questioning and are mature enough to accept it as a component of democratic life.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW WOOD
(Director, Northern Ireland Information Service, 1987-97),
15 Station Road,
Craigavad, Co Down BT18 0BP.
June 27.

From Mrs Moira Hoffman

Sir, Your report implies that certain very able Labour ministers are reluctant to face the fire of BBC interviewers like John Humphrys and Jeremy Paxman because they would prefer a quiet "sofa chat". I suspect the real reason is their dislike of interviewers who interrupt, do not allow the completion of a reasoned argument, push their own opinions and ask outrageous questions — often to the extent that it makes it impossible for the audience to follow the argument.

Apart from anything else, what sort of message do such techniques send to children who are constantly being urged by their parents to be polite, not to interrupt, to wait until others have finished speaking?

Yours faithfully,
MOIRA HOFFMAN,
7 Mill Meadow,
Tenbury Wells, Worcester WR15 8HX.
June 28.

Fossil evidence of feathered friends

From Dr Oliver Impey

Sir, Your report of June 24 about feathered dinosaurs is exciting, but hardly as revolutionary as you (or your scientific informants) make out. When I read zoology at Oxford in the 1950s, the late Harold Pusey taught us to regard it as more than likely that many dinosaurs were warm-blooded (homoithermic) and that in all probability many, at least among the smaller ones, had rudimentary feathers. All fossilised feathers known then (and now?) were fully developed feathers, as in modern birds, so there must have been a long evolutionary period.

Pusey's explanation of the feathers' original purpose was convincing: they were not only a warm coat, but the wing feathers would act as escape devices.

He used to conjure up a scene where a small dinosaur (and most dinosaurs were probably not much bigger than a chicken) was running for its life pursued by a large carnivore; when the large carnivore was, at high speed, too close for comfort, the small dinosaur could spread its "wings" and make a sharp braking evasive turn on a much tighter curve than could any large predator. The next stages would be gliding, and finally flight.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER IMPEY,
The Ashmolean Museum,
Oxford OX1 2PH.
June 27.

Diana memorial

From Mr Peter Verity

Sir, In the light of the concern over the likely impact on Kensington Gardens of a memorial to Diana, Princess of Wales (leading article, June 25), I suggest that Green Park might be considered as an alternative location.

Green Park, which is relatively under-used, might even be improved by the addition of a significant landscape feature. A memorial garden there would have both Buckingham Palace and Spencer House as its backdrop and neighbouring St James's Palace, where the book of condolence was signed, gives the park another appropriate association. It is already on a well-beaten tourist path, directly served by Tube and bus connections and coach parking in Park Lane, and it lies on the route of the proposed memorial walk.

Yours etc,
PETER VERITY,
Falcon House,
202 Old Brompton Road, SW5 0BU.
June 26.

Russian Orthodox intransigence over burial of the Tsar

From Proto-deacon Peter Scorer

Sir, Your leading article, "A Church's shame" (June 20), does little to help the cause of a beleaguered liberal minority within the Russian Orthodox Church.

The reasons for the Patriarch's refusal to participate in the burial of the Tsar's remains may be fuelled as much by his fear of a bigoted right-wing backlash as by his reluctance to officiate at what could be regarded as a hypocritical piece of triumphalism. Such triumphalism would do little to honour the Imperial Family, and even less to unite the country. To his credit, the Patriarch last week sounded a positive note in declaring July 17 (the day of the burial) to be a day of repentance for the national sins of apostasy and regicide.

It is unfortunately true that bigotry and obscurantism are rife in certain spheres of Russian Orthodox Church life, and the book-burning in Yekaterinburg is a scandal which should be denounced by the Patriarch without further delay. As you rightly point out, anti-Semitism is widespread and only adds to the Patriarch's problems. However, I would note that it is not the present Metropolitan of St Petersburg who should be labelled an anti-Semite, but his predecessor, Metropolitan John, who died three years ago. In fact, the present Metropolitan is well known for his liberal views.

Yours faithfully,
PETER SCORER (Proto-deacon,
Russian Orthodox Church in Britain
(Moscow Patriarchate)),
55 Regent's Park, Exeter EX1 2NZ.
pfscorer@ex.ac.uk
June 23.

From Mr Martin Packard

Sir, I feel that your leader was one-sided.

In the Russia of Soviet Union times there were two separate peoples: a small minority composed of the Communist Party and a bureaucratic oligarchy; and the vast mass of a disenfranchised population. The Russian Orthodox Church ministered to the latter, among which it had huge communicant strength (said to be over 40 million), relatively unhampered in most areas away from Moscow from the 1940s onwards.

A small number of priests pursued a political role and suffered persecution. It was with this group that emigré Russians and foreign institutions, such as Keston College, developed a relationship.

When Communist rule ended, the main body of the Church acknowledged the efforts and sacrifice of those priests, at home and abroad, who had actively opposed the former Government and sought for reconciliation with them.

At the same time it sought for help from abroad in developing a new social role. Sadly, what it got from abroad was a response that was schismatic and destructive. The patriarchate was denigrated for supposed collaboration with the KGB. Help was channelled not to the main body of the Church but to essentially dissident groups. Fundamentalist Roman Catholic and Protestant organisations mounted aggressive, proselytising campaigns, backed by huge financial resources.

The Russian Church felt itself unfairly attacked and its reaction, regrettably, was to withdraw into extreme xenophobia.

The examples of bigotry and reaction which you highlighted are sad and reprehensible. However, such criticism should also be aimed at foreign church institutions, including Keston, which, rather than concentrate on Christian reconciliation in Russia, have played schismatic roles and contributed to Russian Orthodox alienation from the West.

Yours faithfully,
M. PACKARD,
Stable Cottage,
Cedar Lodge, Northside,
Steeple Aston, Bicester OX6 3SE.
June 24.

From Dr Nicholas P. Mason

Sir, Orthodox communities have spread throughout the world during the 20th century. While the Church of England seems to be passing through a massive crisis of identity, rejecting its past and destroying itself in pursuit of worldly relevance, modernism and management efficiency, it would be tragic if the message of the Orthodox tradition, with its theology untainted by Renaissance thought, and with a refreshingly holistic and ecological view of man and his place in the world, were to be lost as a result of the events taking place within the Moscow Patriarchate to a hungry world crying out for a living and relevant Christian spirituality.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS P. MASON,
7 Rue Daubenton, 75005 Paris.
nickmason1@compuserve.com
June 22.

'Plum' on Pekes

From Miss Helen Murphy

Sir, Your report (June 25) on the sale in New York of unpublished letters written by P. G. ("Plum") Wodehouse from Berlin during the Second World War will have been of great interest to the Master's many fans. Please allow me to shed a little more light on Plum's Berlin broadcasts, for which he was wrongly pilloried as a German collaborator.

These were not written originally at the Germans' instigation. The P. G. Wodehouse Society is fortunate enough to have among its members a gentleman who was interned with Plum at Tost and spent a good deal of time with him. He has personally confirmed that the talks were given to Plum's fellow prisoners in gratitude for their kindness to him; they all considered that they were very funny and took the Mickey out of the Germans nicely.

By a nice coincidence, your report appeared on the same page as a photograph of the actress Maureen O'Sullivan and on the same day you carried her obituary. Plum was in Hollywood in the early Thirties, and though he was shy and generally loathed parties attended by the stars, he mentions Maureen O'Sullivan on several occasions in his letters with affection. When she visited Ireland he looked after her Peke, Johnny, "the ugliest and greediest hound I ever met, but full of charm".

In 1936 Plum wrote to his friend William Townend: "We don't see much of anybody except our beloved Maureen O'Sullivan and her husband." His stepdaughter Leonara once wrote that what counted most with Plum was whether someone was "sound on Pekes". Shades of Lord Emsworth and the Empress.

Yours faithfully,
HELEN MURPHY
(Membership Secretary),
The P. G. Wodehouse Society (UK),
16 Herbert Street,
Plaistow, E13 8BE.
June 26.

Justice in Ireland

From Mr Eric Stockton

Sir, Lord Tebbit is right to say of the Six Counties that there cannot be lasting peace without justice (report, June 30, later editions); I would add that justice cannot be achieved by appeasement. There are two matters which required a firm, even-handed, non-appeasing approach.

One is that terrorists should have been made to serve their full sentences, just like other convicted criminals; to release them, like prisoners of war when the "war" is supposedly over, is simply unacceptable.

The other is that these preposterous Protestant marches should be done away with; it is no part of anyone's proper civil liberties to have an institutionalised right to intimidate one's fellow citizens.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC STOCKTON,
West Cott,
Sanday, Orkney KW17 2BW.
June 30.

Summer solstice

From Mr Michael Purches

Sir, What on Earth (literally) is the "summer equinox" (letters headline, June 27)? Is it something visible from the east pole?

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PURCHES,
99 Farm Road, Abingdon OX14 1NB.
June 29.

Millennium Bridge

From Mr Brian Meeking

Sir, The proposed Thames Millennium Bridge that you illustrate today is certainly a brilliant engineering solution that will win prizes and influence people, but is it best for the wandering pedestrian?

Not everybody will want a high-speed, pedestrian north-south link; some might like to have a think leaning on the handrail, or sit and make a sketch.

Couldn't the bridge be wider, with no structure above the handrail obstructing the view, like a seaside pier or the Pont des Arts in Paris? This would still give room for an imaginative support structure below; but with a few seats above it could be a place to linger and enjoy.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN MEEKING,
12x Foxes Dale, Blackheath, SE3 9BQ.
June 26.

From Mr Richard Fisher

Sir, What a relief to know that the Millennium Bridge will provide "full access to the river with a moving platform lift". So much more civilised than having to throw oneself in.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD FISHER,
1 Middle Lane, N8 8PG.
June 26.

Lawrence inquiry

From Mr Martin Hasseck

Sir, There are many of us who are full of admiration for the composure and dignity of the Lawrence family at the public inquiry into the death of Stephen.

It was unfortunate for them that a crucial day in the inquiry was marred by the intrusive antics of the Nation of Islam (reports and photograph, June 30).

With friends of the organisation led by Louis Farrakhan who needs enemies?

Yours faithfully,
M. HASSECK,
104 Holders Hill Road, NW4 1LL.
June 30.

Accessible opera

From Mr Frank Rudd

Sir, Sir Richard Eyre is quoted today as believing that opera should be cheaper and more accessible to the public and that the Government should subsidise the change.

What he means is that taxpayers who do not go to the opera should subsidise those who do.

Yours sincerely,
F. RUDD,
8 Oak Road, Flitwick MK45 1LP.
June 30.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Freedom of choice

From Mr Ian Rae

Sir, I have just spent almost an hour putting new castors on my piano so that I can easily move it anywhere, only to discover that by far the best place for it is where it was to start with.

However, I have justified my efforts by putting it somewhere less satisfactory.

Yours,
IAN RAE,
1257 Bristol Road South,
Birmingham B31 2SW.
June 28.

COURT CIRCULAR

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
June 30: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh today visited the Scottish Police College, Tulliallan, and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Fife (the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine KT), the Commandant of the College (Mr Hugh Watson), Mr Henry McLeish MP, (Minister of State, Scottish Office, Home Affairs).

Her Majesty launched the Police Information Network for Scotland and afterwards, with His Royal Highness, toured the College, watching students in training.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were received later at Dundee Airport by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Dundee (Mr Mervyn Rolfe, the Lord Provost).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness afterwards visited the University of Abertay and were received by the Chancellor (the Earl of Airlie KT), the Principal and Vice-Chancellor (Professor Bernard King) and the Rt Hon Donald Dewar MP (Secretary of State for Scotland).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh toured the new Library, after which Her Majesty officially declared it open.

Later The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were entertained to Lunch in the Kydd Building at the University.

This afternoon Her Majesty and His Royal Highness visited Letham Village Hall and were received by the Chairman of Letham Village Hall Committee (Mr James Stewart).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh afterwards visited Kingdom Shopping Centre, Glenrothes, and Rothes Hall Civic Centre to mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of Glenrothes New Town and were received by the Convener of Fife Council (Councillor John MacDougall).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness later visited Forbo-Nairn Limited, Kirkcaldy, were received by the Managing Director (Mr Richard Pemberton) and toured the design studio and factory.

CLARENCE HOUSE
June 30: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited gardens in the London Borough of Lambeth under the auspices of the London Gardens Society and the London Children's Flower Society.

Miss Jane Walker-Okeover was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 30: The Princess Royal this morning opened the new Stewart Grand Prix factory at Tilbrook, Milton Keynes, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire (Sir Nigel Mobbs).

Her Royal Highness, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, this afternoon visited the Elisabeth Curtis Centre for Disabled Riders Group, Bromham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire (Mr Samuel Whitbread).

The Princess Royal this evening attended a Dinner to celebrate fifty years of the National Health Service, given by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain at 1 Lambeth High Street, London.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 30: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, this evening attended a Reception at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to celebrate the Fortieth Anniversary of the Victorian Society.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 30: The Duke of Kent, President, the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, this afternoon attended the Wimbledon Championships.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at the Palace of Holyroodhouse at 11.00: and as patron, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will attend a reception at the Royal Botanic Gardens, at 3.00 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Chancellor, will visit Edinburgh University at 9.00.

The Prince of Wales, president, The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, will attend the End of Year Exhibition at 15 Gloucester Gate, London, NW1, at 3.00: and will reopen the Soho Housing Association Flats at Sandringham House, Charing Cross Road, London, WC2, at 5.00.

The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment), will visit Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, Essex, at 10.30.

The Duke of Gloucester will present the 1998 Japan Festival awards for the Japan Festival Fund at the Café Royal, at 12.40.

The Hawthornden Prize

The Hawthornden Prize for Literature for 1998 has been awarded to Mr Charles Nicholl for his book Somebody Else: Arthur Rimbaud in Africa, 1880-1891. The prize was presented to him yesterday by Dr John Hemming at a reception at the National Portrait Gallery. The runners-up were Cyril Connolly: A Life by Jeremy Lewis and the novel The Underground Man by Mick Jackson. The chairman of the judges was Mr Derwent May.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Louis Bleriot, pioneer aviator, first to fly across the Channel (1909), Cambrai, France, 1872; Charles Laughton, actor, Scarborough, 1899.

DEATHS: John Bradford, Protestant martyr, burnt at the stake, London, 1555; Allan Pinkerton, founder of the American detective agency, Chicago, 1884; Erik Satie, composer, Paris, 1924; Robert Mitchum, actor, Los Angeles, 1997.

The night sky in July

By Michael J. Hendrie
Astronomy Correspondent

MERCURY is an evening star throughout July and may be visible during the first week or so low in the west after sunset. Of 0 magnitude it sets an hour and a half after the Sun on the 1st but is closing with the Sun and fading so will be more difficult to see each evening. It reaches greatest eastern elongation (27 degrees) on the 17th but by then will be too low in the sky to be seen from our latitudes.

Venus moves into a slightly darker sky during July and at -3.8 magnitude should be visible low in the east before sunrise. Crescent Moon nearby on the 21st.

Mars is in Gemini but the 1.5 magnitude red planet will be in twilight until the end of the month and not easily seen. Moon to the south on the 22nd.

Jupiter reaches a stationary point on the 18th and then retrogrades slowly through Pisces. The -2.7 magnitude planet rises by 21h 20m by the 31st. Moon close by on the 14th.

Saturn is 0.5 magnitude rising an hour after Jupiter. During the latter part of the month it moves from Pisces into Cetus. Moon to the south on the 16th-17th.

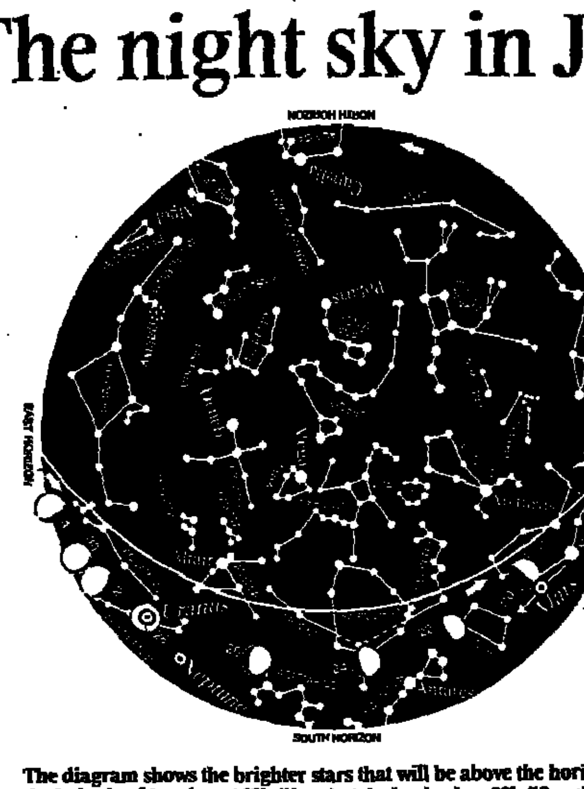
Uranus is 5.7 magnitude and in Capricornus rising at sunset. Moon to the north on the 11th.

Neptune is 8 magnitude and in Capricornus, reaching opposition on the 23rd. Moon to the north on the 10th.

The Moon: first quarter 1d 19h; full Moon 9d 16h; last quarter 16d 15h; new Moon 23d 14h and first quarter 31d 12h. Crescent Moon near Regulus on the 25th.

The Earth is at aphelion, its farthest point from the Sun, on 4d 00h (152 million km).

Sunset on the 1st is at 20h 25m and on the 31st at 19h 50m while sunrise is at 03h 45m and 04h 20m on the same dates. Astronomical twilight lasts all night in London until July 22 but by the end of the month there are about 2.5 hours of darkness in the south but still all night twilight in the north.



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

The summer constellations are not as easy to identify as many of the winter ones; they lack the bright stars or the well-defined outlines. On the small monthly charts it is impossible to show clearly more than four sizes of stars, the largest discs being the brightest, whereas the naked eye stars that can be seen in moderate urban conditions on a dark night cover about 5 magnitudes, from -1.5 for Sirius the brightest star in Canis Major (Great Dog) to 3.5 to 4th magnitude for the fainter stars shown on the monthly charts: a few fainter stars are included. A good eye on a dark night may see to 6th magnitude away from all lights but twilight, moonlight or artificial lights reduce this limit. For historical reasons a star's apparent brightness is measured in magnitudes, such that a difference of 5 magnitudes is equal to a hundredfold difference in brightness. A sixth magnitude star is one hundredth as bright as one of 1st magnitude, or put another way 100 sixth magnitude stars give as much light as one of 1st magnitude. A difference of one magnitude is a difference of 2.5 times in brightness.

The large constellations of Ophiuchus and Serpens contain no bright stars and may be hard to identify, even though they look obvious on the chart. It is easiest to start from bright stars such as Spica, Antares, Arcturus or from readily identifiable small constellations such as Corona (Corona Borealis or Northern Crown) which though composed of rather faint stars is easily found, being compact. Delphinus (Dolphin) near Altair in Aquila (Eagle) is also easy to find as are the larger constellations Cygnus (Swan), Pegasus (Flying Horse) and Cassiopeia (Queen Cassiopeia), the well known "W" in the sky. Forming a triangle with Deneb and Altair is Vega in Lyra (Harp) and between Vega and Corona the "keystone" of Hercules can be picked out, almost a square.

Below orange Arcturus and near the horizon is Spica in the southwest. In the south is the red star Antares, the brightest star in Scorpius (Scorpion): only the tail of this constellation figure appears above the horizon even from the south coast.

The Milky Way, the faint band of light that is part of our own Galaxy, is made up in part of millions of faint stars of which thousands can be seen in binoculars. A clear view requires a dark sky so it will not be much in evidence even from rural areas until the end of the month even in southern England. It runs from Sagittarius (Archer), through Aquila, Cygnus, Cepheus (King Cepheus), Cassiopeia, to Perseus.

Near the eastern horizon will be a very bright object, the giant planet Jupiter. In Pisces the planet will rise earlier night by night becoming the brightest evening object after the Moon for the rest of the year. Rising an hour or more later follows Saturn, much fainter than Jupiter but still a prominent object in an area of rather faint stars. Saturn will also be an evening star into 1999.

Birthdays today

Mr Dan Aykroyd, actor, 46; Sir Alan Campbell, diplomat, 79; Miss Leslie Caron, actress, 67; Mr Wayne David, MEP, 41; Miss Olivia de Havilland, actress, 82; Mr Trevor Eve, actor, 47; Lady Faulkner of Downpatrick, 73; Sir Colin Figures, civil servant, 73; Lord Gisborough, 71; Mr Hans Werner Henze, composer, 72; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Hugo, former Gentleman Usher to the Queen, 99.

Viscount Leverhulme, KG, 83; Mr Carl Lewis, athlete, 37; the Marquess of Linlithgow, 52; Miss Jean Marsh, actress, 64; Professor Stephen Neidle, Academic Dean, Institute of Cancer Research, 52; General Sir Thomas Pearson, 84; Miss Joan Sadler, former Principal, Cheltenham Ladies' College, 71; Mr Garry Schofield, rugby league player, 33; Mr Peter Walwyn, racehorse trainer, 65; the Very Rev Alan Webster, former Dean of St Paul's, 80.

Dinners

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain
The Princess Royal was present at a dinner given by Mr Hemant Patel, President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, last night at 1 Lambeth High Street, London, SE1, to mark the 50th anniversary of the National Health Service. The Secretary of State for Health, Baroness Cumberlege, and the Chairman of the National Liaison Group for the 50th Anniversary of the NHS attended.

Members of the society, members of both Houses of Parliament, representatives of pharmaceutical associations and institutions, pharmaceutical companies and the medical profession were among the guests.

Curriers' Company
The Lord Mayor attended the annual livery and ladies' dinner of the Curriers' Company held last night at Clothworkers' Hall. Mr C.S. Heaps, Master, presided. Lord Berkeley was the principal guest and speaker. Liveryman G.H. Stow also spoke. During the evening an illuminated address was presented to the Commanding Officer of 101 (London) Engineer Regiment to mark the 10th anniversary of the company's affiliation with the regiment.

Lord Boston of Faversham, QC
Mr Carl Teper and past and present Members of his Chambers held a dinner to mark the retirement from the Circuit Bench of His Honour Anura Cooray last night at The House of Lords. Lord Boston of Faversham, QC, was the host. The guests included:
Lady Boston of Faversham, Mrs Cooray, Judge Leo Charles, QC, and Mrs Charles, Judge William Barnett, QC, and Mrs Barnett, Judge Hordern, QC, and Mrs Hordern, Judge Samuels, QC, and Mrs Samuels, Judge and Mrs Fabyan Evans, Judge and Mrs Fordham, Judge Freedman and Mr Neil Shestopal, Judge and Mrs Marr Johnson, Judge Pontius, Ms Dora Belford, Mr Reggie Fernando, Mr and Mrs Clive Ince, Mr Marlon Cooray and Miss Samantha Cooray.

Carlton Club
The General Committee of the Carlton Club last night dined out Lord Wakeham at the club to mark the end of his six year term as chairman. Lord Walker of Worcester, newly elected chairman, presided. Sir Brian Goswell also spoke.

Institute of Biology

The following have been elected as Fellows and may use the designatory letters CBiol FIBiol:
Dr D R Alexander, Professor E Baydoun, Professor P R Boyle, Dr M W Bruford, Dr C S Collis, Dr B Dale, Professor H V Davies, Dr R J Esslemont, Dr G N Foster, Dr C Foyer, Dr B J A Furr, Dr I Gibson, Professor J W Gorrod, Dr M C N Jayasuriya, Professor J A Raven, Professor C J Secombes, Mr V R Simpson, Dr S M Smith.

Call 0171 581 8333 for information in membership.

Marriages

Mr J. Freeman-Attwood and the Hon Emmy Rothschild
The marriage took place at Waddesdon, on Wednesday, June 24, of Julian, son of Major Warren Freeman-Attwood and Mrs Liz Mostyn-Owen, to Emmy, daughter of Lord and Lady Rothschild.

Mr M.S. Griffin and Miss B.M. Denehy
The marriage took place on Saturday, June 27, at St Mary's, Newton Valence, Hampshire, of Mr Marcus Sutton Griffin, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Griffin, of Wandella, New South Wales, Australia, to Miss Boo Denehy, of Val d'Isère, France, daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Denehy, of Newton Valence, Hampshire. The Rev James Anderson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Tatiana, Lydia and Yasmin Denehy and Rosanna Innes. Mr Steven O'Neill, from Australia, was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in Cornwall and Ecuador. The couple will be living near Sydney.

Prior Park College, Bath

Today is Speech Day. The principal celebrant and preacher at High Mass is the Right Rev Dr M.A. Alexander, Bishop of Clifton. Concelebrants include the Most Rev J.A. Ward, OFMCap, Archbishop of Cardiff, and the Right Rev C. Murphy-O'Connor, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton. The retiring Chairman of Governors, Colonel R.S.C. Dowden, will be presented with the insignia of Knight Commander of St Gregory. The Very Rev M. McMahon, OP, will present the prizes and address the school.

The following scholarships and other awards are announced:
11+ Scholarships
Lauren Hawkins, The Mill School, Devizes, Wilts; Emily Coles, Amie Corry, Sian Gulliford, Rosemary Lewis, Hannah Smith, Emma Stubbs, all Paragon School, Bath; Charlotte Cronk, James Leach, Oliver McGivern, all Heywood Preparatory School, Corsham, Wilts; Nicola Tomson, St John's-on-the-Hill, Chepstow, Mon.
13+ Scholarships
Finbarr Cosgrove, Hatherop Castle Preparatory School, Cirencester; Laurent Rathborn, St John's Beaumont, Berks. All Rounder Scholarships: Fiona Beardmore, Prior Park Preparatory School, Cricklade, Wilts; Andrew Edwards, All Hallows Preparatory School, Somerset; Harry Ellias, St Ronan's Preparatory School, Hawkhurst, Kent; Sarah Hobern, Prior Park Preparatory School. All Rounder and Mathematics Scholarship: Peter Tomson, St John's-on-the-Hill, Chepstow. Academic Exhibition: Dominique Beaumont, Prior Park Preparatory School. 16+ Music Scholarship: Patrick Meehan, St Augustine's RC Comprehensive School, Trowbridge. Music Exhibition: Timothy Jones, Prior Park College. Art Scholarship: Leanna Chan, Prior Park Preparatory School. Design and Technology Award: Will Laslett, St Lawrence School, Bradford on Avon.

Luncheon

Institute of Physics
Dr Brian Manley, President of the Institute of Physics, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the Goring Hotel, Victoria, for representatives of the institute's corporate affiliate companies.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon A.J. Baillie and Miss G. Parente-Addison
The engagement is announced between Alexander, younger son of Lord Burton, of Dochfour, Inverness, and Gigina, stepdaughter and daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs A.R.G. Addison, of Monikie, Angus, and daughter of Dr John T. Parente, of Palm Beach, Florida.

Mr W.W. Beeson and Miss C.J. Kelley
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Beeson, of Saxlingham, Holt, and Camilla, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Kelley, of Endon Hall, Pershore.

Mr M.R. Brocklehurst and Miss S.E. Collins
The engagement is announced between Miles Roger, son of Mr and Mrs Errol Brocklehurst, of Durban, South Africa, and Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Collins, of Ramsey, Isle of Man.

Mr S.F. Bullock and Miss K.M. MacInnes
The engagement is announced between Sebastian, son of Mr and Mrs Francis Bullock, of Plaxtol, Kent, and Katherine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick MacInnes, of Little Horsted, Sussex.

Mr M.S. Chapman and Miss A.C. Baker
The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mr and Mrs Stuart Chapman, of Martham, Norfolk, and Amanda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Cecil John Baker, of London and Tunbridge Wells.

Mr J.L. Hampel and Miss A.L. Chow
The engagement is announced between Johnnie, second son of Mr and Mrs Norman Hampel, of Denham, Buckinghamshire, and Alison, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ben Chow, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr J.M. Hughes and Miss S.H. Hemus
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Brigadier and Mrs Bugs Hughes, of Lymington, Hampshire, and Sophia, youngest daughter of the late Mr Ralph Hemus and of Mrs Isobel Hemus, of Stoke Golding, Warwickshire.

Mr A.H. Norton and Miss J.E. Banks
The engagement is announced between Alexander, eldest son of Mr and Mrs F.E. Norton, of Hampstead, London, and Jenny, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs P.G. Banks, of Greatworth, Oxfordshire.

Mr R.J. Smithson and Miss P.S. Robertson
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Smithson, of Woking, Surrey, and Philipa, daughter of Air Commodore and Mrs William Robertson, of Leigh, Surrey.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

As for me, I trust in your unfailing love; my heart will rejoice when I am brought to safety. Psalm 13 : 5

BIRTHS

ARMITAGE - On June 29th at The Portland Hospital to Leslie (née Lipton) and Clark, a daughter, Madison Leigh, our first child.

CLARKE on June 29th at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester to Judy (née Ormrod) and Bernard, a daughter, Isabel, a sister for big brother Theo.

CLORE/MESHOULAM - On 27th June to Melanie and Yaron, a daughter, Martha Lily, a sister for Theo.

EGLESTON - On June 25th 1998 to Caroline (née Clements) and Hugo, the gift of a beautiful daughter, Suzannah Olivia.

FULLER - On 20th June 1998 to Jane (née Duncan) and Matthew, a son, Oliver John Acland.

GALLEY - On June 26th at The Portland Hospital to Yu-ing and Alexis, a son, Louis, a brother for Laure.

HADLEY-PIGGIN - On June 22nd to Jane (née Mullins) and Jonathan, a son, James William Rupert.

LAZARUS - On 29th June to Ursula (née O'Neill) and Simon, a beautiful daughter Ruth Anne, a sister for Hugh. Grateful thanks to the staff of Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

LINDSAY-STEWART - On 25th June at the West Middlesex Hospital to Jane (née Gordon) and Neil, a daughter, Harriet May, a sister for Alexander.

LOWRES - On June 27th at The Portland Hospital to Claire and Dominic, a son, Samuel John.

McQUILLEN - on June 27th at The Princess Royal Hospital, to Karen (née Hudd) and John, a beautiful first child, Harriet Annie Evelyn.

PAGE - On June 29th, to Alice (née Colman) and Tim, a daughter (Natasha Phoebe Anastasia), a sister for Thomas.

van der SYL - On 10th June at The UCH, London, to Julie (née Croft) and Kevin, a son, Alexander James.

WEISS - On 23rd June 1998 at The Royal Free Hampstead to Tanya (née Linch) and Peter, a son, Sjue Abraham.

WILLIAMS - On Friday June 12th to Katharine (née Leach) and Jeremy, a daughter, Emma Minerva Olga.

WORSLEY - On June 19th, to Joanna (née Pitman) and Giles, a daughter (Alice Beaufort).

DEATHS

ALLEN - Raymond Charles died June 23rd, after a long illness bravely borne. Past Captain and Chairman of Ealing Golf Club. He is sorely missed by family and friends. Service 1pm 3rd July at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip. Family flowers only please. Donations to Cancer Research.

ANDERSON - Nick, husband of Judy, on 26th June in Southampton. Funeral 3.00pm Tuesday 7th July at Salisbury Cathedral. No flowers please. Donations welcome for Countess Mountbatten House c/o I.N. Newman Ltd, Salisbury, SP1 1HL.

BAX - On June 29th in Sheffield Doris Amelia Laura aged 76 years, of Ranmoor. Beloved wife of the late Bill, dearly loved mother of Nigel, and mother-in-law of Deborah: much loved grandmother of George, Sarah and Rebecca. Service at St Johns Church Ranmoor, Monday July 6th at 12.00 noon and at Hutcliffe Wood Crematorium at 1.00pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, payable to R.A.F. Benevolent Fund may be sent to John Heath & Sons, Funeral Directors Sheffield S4 7LS.

BIRDSEY - Joan Hazel of Hitchin at Lister Hospital on June 27th aged 80. Dearly loved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. Funeral Service at Harwood Park Crematorium, Stevenage on Monday July 6th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for Parkinson's Disease Society c/o Austins Funeral Directors 96 Bancroft, Hitchin, Herts. SG5 1NQ 01462 438422.

BLACK - On June 29th 1998, Joan Emily, aged 91 years. Late of High Street, Hurstpierpoint. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint, on Tuesday July 7th at 2.00pm to be followed by Cremation. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, for St. Christopher's Home, may be sent to Bowley Funeral Service, 30 Keymer Road, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 8AN Tel 01273 841711.

BRAY - In a sailing accident at Itchenor on June 27th, Francis Ian Richard (Ian). Much loved husband of Ruth and father of James and Philip. Funeral Service at All Saints Church Fulham on July 7th at 3.15 pm. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Sail Training Association c/o E. Larner & Son, 246 Upper Richmond Road, SW15 6TG Tel: (0181-788-2942).

BUGGE - Prue. Died peacefully on 11th June at Old Cleeve house aged 84. Much loved wife of Peter, mother of Carol, grand mother and great grand mother. Private family funeral has taken place.

CAIRNCROSS - Lady Mary suddenly after a stroke on June 26th. Beloved wife of Alec for 55 years and loving mother of Frances, Philip, Sandy, David and Elizabeth. Funeral Service at Oxford Crematorium on Monday July 6th at 10.30am. Memorial Service to be announced. No flowers. Donations to Oxfam or The National Trust.

CECIL - Anthony Robert Gascoyne-Cecil (Hippo) died at home, aged 77, on June 28th after a long and painful illness courageously borne. He was dearly loved and will be sadly missed by his family - his wife Alison, brother Rupert, children Michael, Jennifer, Richard, Caroline, Rosalind and grandchildren. He was highly respected in the field of agricultural engineering for his enterprise and inventiveness to the end of his life. Private family funeral next week will be followed by a Memorial Service at Sandon Church on Friday July 24th at 12-30pm. Donations if desired to International Myeloma Foundation, 9 Gayfield Square, Edinburgh EH1 3NT or Farleigh Homecare Fund, 212 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 9AE.

CRICHTON - Patricia (Trish) (née Dorrell) peacefully at Nine Mile Burn after 5 years of fighting cancer. Greatly loved by her husband Robin, and daughters Miglet, Sian and Louisa. A celebration of her life will take place at the film studio at 3.00 pm. on Saturday 4th July, followed by her burial in the beech woods. Flowering trees or shrubs for planting, welcome.

DAVIS - Patrick, formerly of The Times, in St Thomas's Hospital, London on June 25th. No letters or flowers please.

ECCLES - Kenneth peacefully in hospital on Friday 26th June 1998 aged 58 years formerly of Birkenhead, Wirral and of Mynyddisa near Mould. Beloved husband of Vivienne and a dear father to Timothy. Funeral Service and cremation will take place on Friday 3rd July 1998 at 2pm at Pentrebychan Crematorium near Wrexham. No flowers please by request but donations if so desired to The Christies Hospital, Manchester. Further enquiries to Gerald Wright & Son Funeral Directors 163 Mould Road, Buckley, Flintshire, Tel: 01244 548811.

GASSMAN - Lewis, on 30th June 1998 aged 87 after a long illness courageously borne. Dearly beloved husband of Betty, father of Caroline, grandfather of Jerrold and Emma. No flowers. Donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

GEORGE - The Rev. A. Raymond MABD passed peacefully away 22nd June 1998. Funeral Service at 1pm on Friday 10th July 1998 at Brentry Methodist Church, Bristol followed by cremation at Canford, Bristol at 2pm. Memorial Service at 2.30pm on Wednesday 14th October 1998 at Wesley College, Henbury, Bristol. In lieu of flowers donations requested for either Brentry Methodist Church or Charles Wesley Heritage Centre, Bristol c/o Executor Ken Napier, 1C Meridian Road, Bristol BS6 5EG Tel: (0117 942 7282).

GORDON - On 28th June 1998 Professor James Edward, suddenly but peacefully. Much loved and loving husband of Theo, dear father of John and the late Peter, father in law of Liz and Lee, grandfather of Tim, Alex, Nicholas and Francis and the late Katherine. The funeral will be held at St. Mary's Church, Upton, near Didcot, Oxon Friday 3rd July at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please. There will be a retiring collection at the church. Enquiries to R.H. Barker 40, Wantage Road, Didcot, Oxon 01235 510033.

GOWEN - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dr. Maurice J. Gowen (Mons) on 24th June, at home in Cape Town, South Africa in the arms of his beloved wife and son. Requiescat in pace.

HARMAN - Caroline Dorothy Townsend, aged 79 years, suddenly at home on 27th June. Widow of John Harman and much loved sister of Charles MacFetridge, Mary MacFetridge and Fanny Micks and the late Herbert MacFetridge and William MacFetridge. Funeral Service at Compton Parish Church, near Winchester on Tuesday 7th July at 2.45 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, to The Multiple Sclerosis Society c/o Jno. Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

HARTIGAN - On 29th June 1998, suddenly but peacefully at his home, Patrick Joseph (Paddy) aged 64 years. Much loved brother, uncle and friend to many. For information re. funeral service please contact H.W. Mason & Sons, Funeral Directors, 9 High Street, Newport Pagnell: 01908 611112. Family flowers only, donations at his request to Injured Jockeys Fund, c/o Undertakers.

HUDLESTON - Anthony, much loved by Jenny, his sister Sally, children Marina, Nick and Lally, also grandchildren Tom and Tatjana. Courageously on Monday 29th June after a long illness. Service to be held at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge SW1 on Monday July 6th at 11am. No flowers by request of family but donations for HDU of the Royal Marsden Hospital, London to J.H. Kenyon, Funeral Directors, 74 Rochester Row, London SW1P 1JU.

JORDAN - Donald Eric MA (Cantab) retired I.C.I. aged 73 years. Beloved husband of Joan, dear father of Barry and Philip and a loving grandfather. Funeral Service at St. Helen's Parish Church, Tarporley on Monday 6th July 1998 at 10am, followed by private cremation at Blacon Crematorium, Chester. Family flowers only please, but donations if so desired to The Stroke Association. Enquiries to T.H. Lightfoot & Sons, Funeral Directors, Tarporley 01829 733808.

KEENE - Peacefully on June 28th, Peggy, widow of Brigadier T P Keene much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral at St John the Baptist Church, Instow at 3.00pm on Monday 6th July. Family flowers only. Enquiries to Trapnell & Sherborne, 01237 472008.

LINDOP - John Neale, June 27th 1998 aged 84 years. Much loved father and grandfather. Funeral Service on Monday July 6th at Allerton United Reformed Church, Liverpool at 12 noon followed by cremation at Springwood Crematorium at 1pm.

MACLEOD - On 26th June peacefully after fighting cancer with guts and determination, Valerie Ann, much loved and loving wife of Donald and mother of Ian, daughter of Morris and the late Millie Hughes of Cheltenham. Fun, intelligent, caring and compassionate, darling Ann, you will be missed and lovingly remembered by your patients, colleagues, friends and family. Private cremation. Funeral Service at 3.30pm on Monday July 6th at St. Andrew's Church, Finchley Road, London NW3 (corner of Frognal Lane). Enquiries and, instead of flowers, donations to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Leverton & Sons Limited, 212 Eversholt Street NW1 1BD (0171 387 6075).

MAYALL - W.H. (Bill). Beloved husband of Gwen and father of Heather at Evesham after a third stroke peacefully on 28th June 1998. No funeral or flowers.

MALINS - On 28th June 1998, Captain Charles Wickham (Ticky) Malins DSO DSC FNI RN. Husband of Gillian, father and grandfather, dearly loved. Private Cremation, no flowers. Thanksgiving Service at St Laurence Church, Catsfield on Friday 10th July at 12.00. Enquiries F. Jempson & Son 01424 772029.

MOWER - Anne Marjorie (née Powlett) on 28th June at home after a long illness borne with great courage. Very much loved mother of Mary (Roni) and Sophie and adored granny to Jamie, Robin and Mia. Funeral Service at St Mary's East Raynham, Norfolk on Thursday 2nd July at 12 noon. No flowers please, but donations in her memory to The Red Cross would be welcomed at the Service or c/o Fakenham & District Funeral Services, Weasenham Manor, Weasenham, Kings Lynn PE32 2TF.

PHILP - Richard Verran, much loved husband of Jean (née Kearl) peacefully on June 29th after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. Funeral in Langton Matravers July 6th, 3pm. Memorial donations to Swanage Hospital, BH19 2ES.

PICKARD - On June 27th in hospital Dudley much loved and missed by his wife Jean and all his family. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at Emmanuel Church, South Croydon on Wednesday July 8th 1998 at 12 noon. No flowers, but donations for The London City Mission c/o J.B. Shakespeare Limited, 67 George Street, Croydon.

READ - Suddenly on Sunday June 28th while on holiday in France, Henry, Coed y Dderw, Cefnllan, Aberystwyth, beloved husband of Christine and dear father of Robert, Judith, Mary and Timothy. Funeral arrangements to be announced later.

RIVERDALE - Peacefully on June 26th at his home in Grindleford the Rt. Hon. Lord Riverdale of Sheffield D.L. Robert Arthur Balfour aged 96 years. Dearly loved husband of the late Christian, dear father of David, Frances and the late Mark and grandfather of Anthony, Nancy and Kate. Memorial Service at the Sheffield Cathedral on Thursday July 9th at 11.30 am. No flowers please, donations payable to Cancer Research may be sent to John Heath & Sons Funeral Directors Sheffield S4 7LS.

ROBINSON - Marjorie, peacefully at home on June 27th aged 87. Beloved wife of the late Philip Ramsay Robinson. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium on Monday 6th July at 3pm. Flowers or donations in favour of Friends of Queen Mary's Hospital, Hampstead to Leverton & Sons Ltd. 624 Finchley Road, NW11 7RR.

SCASE - (Bob) Robert Austen, peacefully at home on June 28th. So dearly loved by his children Mike and Julie, grandchildren Timmy, Andy and Ellen, sisters Enid and Doreen. Funeral for family and close friends. Family flowers only, please, but donations if desired to Royal British Legion c/o F.W. Paine, 108 High St., Esher KT10 9QJ.

SUTHERLAND - Erik Alexander, very much loved and adored and loving son of Alister and Viki and brother of Louisa and Andrew. Tragically killed aged 18 at Porto Pollensa, Majorca on 27th June 1998. He will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him. Funeral at Rhu Church on Monday, 6th July at 2.30pm. All friends and flowers welcome.

TAYLOR - Murray MBE suddenly at home after a long illness aged 85. Son of the late Hilda and Percy and dear brother of Irene and the late Eric and John. Funeral Service at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium on Tuesday July 7th at 1.30pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the British Polio Fellowship c/o W A Truelove & Son, 187 Croydon Road, Caterham.

TAYLOR - Geoffrey Brandon on June 29th peacefully after a short illness aged 80 years. Dearly loved husband of the late Mary, devoted father of Richard, Clare, Dine, Chrissie and Lois. Much loved grandfather and great-grandfather. Private cremation followed by Service of Thanksgiving at St. Canau Church, Llangenny on Friday 10th July at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please.

TURNER - Dr. George Samuel, retired virologist, Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine. On June 28th after a short illness, aged 83 years. Much loved husband, father, grandfather & father-in-law. Funeral at West Herts Crematorium, Garston, on Monday July 6th at 2.20pm. No flowers, donations to RNIB, c/o Phillips Funerals, tel. 01727 851008.

WHITMARSH-KNIGHT - David (TM) on Friday June 26th 1998. Funeral service at St Marks Church, Alma Road, Reigate at 11.00 am on Friday July 10th. All friends welcome. Family flowers only please. Enquiries to G Boutall & Son, Tel: 01932 345037.

WALLACE - Dorothy on 27th June 1998, aged 78 years. Much loved mother of Sarah and Katie and much missed grandmother of Caroline, Lee, Iain, Harry, Claudia and Caitlin. Funeral Service at St John The Baptist Church, Danbury, Essex on Tuesday 7th July at 1.30 pm. Floral tributes or if desired donations to the Stroke Association c/o T Pennack & Sons, Funeral Directors, 1/3 Maldon Road, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 7DW.

WINNING - Phyllis. On June 26th 1998 suddenly but peacefully at home in Hoylake, Wirral aged 88 years. Dearly loved mother of Jill, grandmother of Sarah-Jane, Lucy and Mark. Funeral at St. Hildeburgh's Church, Hoylake on Friday July 3rd at 11.15am. Family flowers only please.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

GROAK - Steven. On Friday 3rd July at 2pm at The Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, London W1, in celebration of his life. All welcome.

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OBITUARIES

PETER SHERMAN

Peter Sherman, MBE, a director of MI5, 1978-82, died on June 15 aged 76. He was born on February 14, 1922

Peter Sherman was one of that unusual breed of men with varied talents, built rather in the John Buchan mould. He was a star on the sports field both at public school and university, served with distinction as a district commissioner in the Sudan and went on to become an acknowledged expert on security within MI5.

Yet he remained throughout his life modest and unassuming. He never even told his employers at MI5 that his service in the Sudan had been recognised with the MBE as long ago as 1955.

Although he spent 27 years with MI5, he had already gained his reputation for good-humoured, professional leadership during an earlier career in the Sudan Political Service, which he joined in 1942.

Hugh Peter Sherman was born in Calcutta, the son of an expatriate jute merchant. He was brought to England by his mother in 1927 and went to Marlborough, where he was a brilliant hockey player. He also played cricket for his school and after witnessing him scoring a half century at Lord's against Rugby, the *Daily Mirror* headlined its report: "Grit and Gumption Sherman."

This was a fitting tribute for a young man who was to flourish in so many different fields in later life. At Queens' College, Cambridge, he won two wartime Blues, for hockey and cricket, but after two terms he applied to join the Royal Navy and was accepted as an officer cadet.

In August 1941, however, he was interviewed and accepted by the Sudan Political Service, which had traditionally offered an adventurous career for young Englishmen wishing to serve their country abroad. The only condition made was that he would have first to join the Army. Having duly undergone officer cadet training in Palestine, he went on to serve with the Sudan Defence Force (SDF) until the war in North Africa was over.

As a junior officer in the SDF, he had the rank of "Bimbashi", meaning ruler of a thousand men. This, however, obliged him to wear a crown with a star, easily confused with that of a British Army lieutenant-colonel. On one occasion when he was only 21, this led to his being put in charge of a whole train of troops, going from Cairo to Tobruk, even though there was a senior major on board. He took it all in his stride.



Sherman: good-humoured leadership in the Sudan Political Service which he joined in 1942

During 1943 and early 1944, he served with the Sudan Camel Corps which at the time was patrolling the Sudan/Eritrean border. He was released from the SDF in March 1944 and appointed an assistant district commissioner in a northern province of Sudan.

Between 1945 and 1946 he was aide-de-camp and assistant private secretary to the Governor-General, Sir Hubert Huddleston, and after serving in Darfur province for three years, was posted to Bahr el Ghazal province in southern Sudan as district commissioner, Wau, before taking over Tonj district in early 1950.

Here, dressed in the traditional bush jacket, long shorts and topi with ostrich feather, he travelled around dispensing justice among the Dinka tribesmen and their chiefs, who wore nothing at all except, for important occasions, pork pie hats. He was posted to Khartoum North in 1953 but his career was cut short in 1954 when the Sudan became independent and the Sudan Political Service was wound up.

He had met his wife Celia in 1948 and had married in 1950. When they returned together to England, he joined MI5 and two years later was posted to Ceylon as a security liaison officer, although his cover title was First Secretary at the Embassy.

He returned from Ceylon in 1960 and joined MI5's protective security branch in which he remained for the rest of his career, although he was seconded for a short period to investigate communist subversion with the Security Service's "F" branch.

In the 1970s he travelled widely as an expert on security, offering British Embassies and High Commissions advice on protection from hostile intelligence services. In 1972 he went to China when the British Embassy in Beijing had been burnt down, to ensure that the new building was free of eavesdropping bugging devices. From there he went on to Ulan Bator and later to Prague and Belgrade.

He was appointed director of the protective security branch in 1978 and retired in that post in 1982. His former colleagues remember him as an excellent manager with a reputation for a lively intelligence, patience, professional skill, wit and good humour.

After retiring, he was kept on part-time for a year at MI5 to help to recruit graduates for the service. Later he himself was recruited by companies to be their security consultant, having gained a considerable reputation for expertise in this field.

He is survived by his wife, Celia, and three daughters, Caroline, Jill and Antonia.

SIR DESMOND HEAP

Sir Desmond Heap, Comptroller and City Solicitor to the Corporation of London, 1947-73, died on June 27 aged 90. He was born on September 17, 1907.

An experienced lawyer, Desmond Heap was an excellent example of the kind of versatility that was not uncommon up to 1945 but has since become much rarer. He succeeded in combining the duties of a salaried public servant with a lifetime of service on important committees with the writing or editing of a large number of legal text and reference books.

Yet his greatest public coup probably came in 1968 when he was instrumental in selling the old London Bridge for $1.8 million to the McCulloch Oil Corporation of the United States, who promptly reconstructed it at Lake Haversu City in Arizona.

Rumours persisted for some years that the Americans had thought at the time that they were buying Tower Bridge — a canard that eventually drew a nettled "You don't get to be head of a major corporation by not knowing what you're buying" from the then company chairman, George McCulloch. However that may have been, it was certainly an episode on which Heap looked back with great satisfaction, as the City Corporation had been about to give away the bricks and mortar for nothing.

Desmond Heap was educated at Burnley Grammar School and Manchester University, where he read law. He was admitted a solicitor in 1933 and in 1935 became prosecuting solicitor for the city of Leeds, being promoted to chief assistant solicitor there in 1938 and deputy town clerk in 1940. In 1947 he was appointed Comptroller and City Solicitor to the Corporation of London, where he remained until retiring in 1973. He was knighted in 1970.

During the whole of his employment at Leeds, he was also a lecturer in the law of town and country planning and housing at the Leeds School of Architecture; and this ability to undertake demanding duties over and above his ordinary daily work remained with him throughout his career.



Heap in the 1950s: he was to take the lead in selling old London Bridge to America

In 1935 he became a legal member of the Town Planning Institute, as it then was, and he served on its council for 30 years from 1947, being president in 1955-56. He was a member of the council of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors from 1957 to 1984, and gave many years of service on numerous other councils and governing or advisory bodies.

His principal work of this kind, however, was on the council of the Law Society, to which he was elected in 1954. He was chairman of several important committees and numerous sub-committees and working parties and was President of the Law Society in 1972-73.

Here he was a lawyer among lawyers, enjoying an outstanding reputation as an authority on planning law and also as an authority on procedure at meetings, in which capacity he readily and amusingly tendered instant practical advice to whoever was the Law Society President of the day.

His standing in the field of planning law was firmly based on the many books he wrote and encyclopaedias he edited, which usually became the standard works on their subjects. Throughout his years in London, this work continued, and he succeeded admirably in keeping abreast of the frequent and radical changes both in planning law itself and the successive attempts by government to tax land development.

In 1973 he received an honorary LLD from his old university, but his friends and colleagues recognised that the volume and importance of his published work would have made him an eligible candidate for a doctorate by examination had he not been awarded an honorary degree.

Endowed with a keen and mischievous sense of humour and a great natural talent for the dramatic, Heap could sustain the interest of any audience whom it fell to him to address, often on subjects that were inherently dull.

He was well read and able to pose impromptu questions or offer topical references to illustrate a point or underline an argument. His gregariousness was fortified by an easy ability to occupy the centre of the stage, but without ever becoming oppressive or dominant.

In 1945 Desmond Heap married Adelene Mai Lacey, a nurse, who survives him along with their son and two daughters.

JACK ROWLEY

Jack Rowley, Manchester United and England footballer, died on June 27 aged 77. He was born on October 7, 1920.

JACK ROWLEY, who won six caps for England, was a prominent figure in the first of the three great Manchester United sides constructed by Sir Matt Busby. They finished runners-up in the old First Division four times in five seasons before finally winning the title in 1951-52. Rowley, a powerful centre-forward with a strong left foot, scored 30 goals that season, a club record which stood unchallenged for eight years until broken by Dennis Viollet.

He belonged to a good footballing family. His father had kept goal for Walsall while his brother, Arthur, scored a total of 433 league goals at several clubs, most notably Leicester City and Shrewsbury. Although Jack Rowley began his career with Wolverhampton Wanderers after being discovered by that innovative manager Major Frank Buckley, he did not flourish until moving to Bournemouth.

He scored ten goals in his first 11 games, enough to attract the attentions of bigger clubs, and in October 1937 he signed for United for £3,000, making his debut against Sheffield Wednesday the following day. United won promotion from Division Two in his first season, and it became apparent that he was playing at a level that barely tested his ability.



Rowley: a powerful centre-forward with a strong left foot in the postwar golden age of British football

At the start of the war he joined the South Staffordshire Regiment and after numerous postings was involved in the D-Day landings. In between actions, his reputation as a goalscorer developed apace and culminated in his selection for England in a wartime international against Wales at Ninian Park, Cardiff.

The period immediately after VE-Day is recognised as something of a golden age for English football. At various times Rowley, nicknamed "The Gunner", found himself in competition with Tommy Lawton, Nat Lofthouse and Jackie Milburn for a single place. In a more barren era he would have earned many more than his six caps.

Yet this did nothing to diminish his status at United. In 1948 he scored two goals in the FA Cup Final at Wembley when they beat a Blackpool side, which included Stanley Matthews, 4-2 — despite being 2-1 down with 20 minutes to go. Remarkably, United had met First Division opposition in every round and were still sharing Maine Road with Manchester City because of bomb damage to Old Trafford.

Seven months later Rowley made his full England debut against Switzerland at Highbury, scoring in a 6-0 win. The highlight of his international career came at Maine Road the following season when he scored four goals as England beat Northern Ireland 9-2. He scored in the next game a fortnight later, against Italy, then world champions, but had to wait more than two years for his final appearance, against Scotland in Glasgow.

It was his goals for United early in the 1951-52 season that had demanded a recall for England. He scored three hat-tricks by the first week of September. With two matches to go United were level on points with Arsenal, but the London club surprisingly lost 3-1 to West Bromwich Albion in the penultimate fixture to leave them needing to beat United 7-0 at Old Trafford if they were to deny Busby the title. Rowley denied them emphatically by scoring another hat-trick in a 6-1 triumph, and Manchester United were champions for the first time since 1911.

Rowley remained with the club, scoring 182 league goals, until joining Plymouth Argyle as player-manager in February 1955. He retired from playing two years later and supervised the club to the Third Division title in 1958-59. Subsequently he managed Oldham Athletic in two periods, winning promotion from Division Four in 1963, before a brief spell as coach at the crack Dutch club, Ajax. Among the emerging youngsters was Johan Cruyff.

He later worked as a newsagent and ran a sub-post office in Shaw, near Oldham, where he died in a nursing home.

Jack Rowley's wife predeceased him. He is survived by two daughters and a son.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BILINGUAL PEOPLE would like to congratulate Svetlana Joalai on the successful completion of her business studies course and her subsequent graduation on the 26th June 1998.

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LEGAL NOTICES

No. 003289 of 1998
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF
STAG GROUP PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY given that a Petition was on 9th June 1998 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of a reduction of the share capital of the above-named Company from £21,250,000 to £18,500,000 by returning capital to the holders of the issued Preference Shares of £1 each.
AND NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 15th day of July 1998.
Any creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 1st day of July 1998
Addleshaw Booth and Co.
Sovereign House,
Sovereign Street,
Leeds LS1 1HQ
Solicitors for the above-named Company

RODNEY FORRESTERS LTD
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1S 3FF on 10 July 1998 at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.
Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at the registered office - Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1S 3FF not later than 12 noon on 9 July 1998.
For the purposes of voting, a secured creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge at Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1S 3FF before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.
Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1S 3FF between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
Dated this 25th of June 1998
By Order of the Board
A Finkle, Director

No. 003412 of 1998
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF CARADON PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 12 June 1998 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the cancellation of the capital redemption reserve of the above-named Company in the sum of approximately £178.5 million.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on 15 July 1998.
Any creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of the capital redemption reserve should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED: 1 July 1998
Slaughter and May
65 Fleet Street
London EC4Y 1HS
Ref: PSS/JAS
Solicitors for the above-named Company

GRANADA CONSULTANTS LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Friday 10th July 1998 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Mr Peter Lomas of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 26TH DAY OF JUNE 1998
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
I CORNER, DIRECTOR

The Insolvency Act 1986
ZOO CORPORATION PLC
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 10th July 1998 at 4 Chesterhouse Square, London EC1M 6HN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA, of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Chesterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6HN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 25th day of June 1998
By Order of the Board
P MARINO, Director

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
Designah International
- In Creditor's Voluntary Liquidation -
I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I, Malcolm Cohen, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner, of BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA and Anthony Peter Suppenheim were appointed joint Liquidators of the above named company on 18 June 1998. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated: 24 June 1998
Malcolm Cohen
Joint Liquidator

In the matter of Christchurch Investors Services Limited - Company number 1346926
Christchurch-King Reinsurance Brokers Limited - Company number 2676211
Nature of Business - Insurance and reinsurance
Administration Order Made 4 June 1998
Date 17 June 1998
David Hiskett and Andrew Fender
Joint Administrators
Cameron Beckman & Partners
Hobson House
155 Gower Street
London WC1E 6BJ

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

THOMAS JOHN GREGORY of House 1 Kellett View 65-69 Mount Kellett Road, The Peak Hong Kong. Also of 5 Cornwall Mews, West London SW7 and 1 Stowe Hill Gardens Lichfield Staffs. Died 1st August 1996. Particulars to Charles Russell Solicitors 8-10 New Fetter Lane EC4A 1RS. On or before 2nd September 1998.
(Ref: KM/MRM/24292/1)

PUBLIC NOTICES

POSSIBLE BENEFICIARIES
Would any children of Mary Ann Stoneham, Emma Wickenden, George Stevens, James Stevens, Richard Albert Stevens, Elizabeth Stevens or William Stevens (children of James Stevens and Emma or Hannah Stevens nee Tidy) or any children of Katie Elizabeth Stockwell or Edwin Charles Stockwell (children of Richard Stockwell and Miss Sarah Stockwell nee Sale) or any person knowing their whereabouts or claiming to be related to them or Rosie May Stockwell deceased please contact The Public Trustee of Queensland, GPO Box 2251, Brisbane, Queensland, 4001 quoting reference H153-1831634 and provide full details of their claim.
Notice is hereby given on or after the 1 October 1998 the Public Trustee intends, pursuant to Section 132 of the Public Trustee Act 1978 to proceed to distribute the assets in the estate of Rosie May Stockwell deceased late of Brisbane in the State of Queensland having regard only to the persons whose claims have been established to his satisfaction or who then appear to him to have the best claim in law.
M BROWNE
REGIONAL MANAGER
PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE
BRISBANE SOUTH REGION

OVER 10 MILES UP

HEIGHT RECORD FOR BRITAIN

From our Aeronautical Correspondent

Flying in a wind of a speed of about 100 miles an hour, Flight Lieutenant M.J. Adam yesterday made a new world's height record for aeroplanes by climbing to 53,937ft. in the special Bristol high-flying aeroplane fitted with the Bristol Pegasus engine and the two-speed supercharger which made the last British height record of 49,944ft. in September. In the interval between the two flights an Italian pilot reached a height of 51,362ft. That has not yet been homologated as a record by the International Aeronautical Federation.

Flight Lieutenant Adam wore the same sort of pressure suit as that in which Squadron Leader F.R.D. Swain made the previous record, modified slightly to prevent the frosting which Squadron Leader Swain suffered between the two sheets of transparent material forming the visor of the helmet. The changes in the aeroplane were also slight. Smaller wheels had been fitted to diminish the drag.

The especial merit of this flight lay in the fact that it was made in a high north-westerly gale in conditions of cloud which left the pilot without landmarks to check his position in relation to the land. For more than half the two and a quarter hours he was in the air Flight Lieutenant Adam could not see the ground. He had to rely on his weather report and his own ability to estimate the strength and direction of the winds at great height to avoid being blown far out to sea.

He set off from the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough at 5.40 yesterday morning and started climbing on a south-westerly course. A little west of Winchester he was brought up by a cloudbank stretching from Spithead as far as he could see to the north-east at a height about 7,000ft. This forced him to turn east with the coast in view, but the sun, low on the horizon, blinded him so that he could not see his instruments and he altered course to the north-east. This brought him over Staines at 20,000ft., and the cloud base which was expected to close beneath him after he had slipped through the clear patch was forming rapidly at about 25,000ft.

He kept roughly on his course and when he reached 35,000ft. there were few gaps in the two layers of cloud beneath him, through which the earth could be seen. The last place he recognized was Rochester, seen at an oblique angle from somewhere north-east of London. At that height the second supercharger had to be brought into service and from that time he had no sight of the ground until he was down to 15,000ft.

That half an hour of blind climbing took him to about 50,000ft., and another half an hour elapsed before the machine reached what appeared to be its ceiling. The altimeter at that time showed more than 55,000ft., and the outside temperature was minus 48.9 deg C. The subsequent corrected height was worked out by official observers of the Royal Aero Club from the barographs carried in the wing and from the records of temperatures and barometric pressures. The time that elapsed between taking off and arriving at the peak of the climb was 1 hour 35 minutes.

The first sight he got of the earth was only a glimpse but he got the impression that it was somewhere near Bristol, and if that was accurate it meant that he had made more westerly progress than he had expected but had not otherwise drifted seriously. With this knowledge he altered course for the rest of the descent to north-east and presently through a gap in the lower layer of cloud he saw a river which must have been the Isis near Oxford. By this time he was down to 15,000ft., and a few minutes later he found the reservoirs near Staines. The rest was easy, and he landed at Farnborough at 7.55.

ON THIS DAY

July 1, 1937

Flying to a height of 53,937ft may not seem too remarkable by today's standards, but this flight took place more than 60 years ago and Flight Lieutenant Adam had to fly in pretty unpleasant conditions; for much of the time he was unable to see the ground.

NEWS

US fighter attacks Iraqi radar

■ An American F16 fired a missile at an Iraqi radar site yesterday after the first hostile action against coalition forces for 20 months. Four RAF Tornados were "locked on to" by Iraqi radar as they flew south of Basra.

The apparent provocation by the Iraqis required "aggressive defensive measures", a spokesman for US Central Command said. Iraq said the attack was "an aggression and unjustifiable action" Pages 1, 14

Report condemns Royal Opera House

■ The Royal Opera House has been accused of arrogance, deeply flawed planning and a failure to dispel an elitist image created by years of mismanagement. The criticism was made in a 149-page report on opera and dance in London by Sir Richard Eyre Pages 1, 6

First-class travel

A day at the races cost the Queen £11,843 last year, the amount charged by Railtrack to take the Royal Train 21 miles from Victoria to Tattenham Corner for the Derby Page 3

Lawrence inquiry

The Stephen Lawrence inquiry disintegrated into violence and recriminations as the five prime suspects in the murder of the black teenager finished giving their evidence Page 5

Alcohol problem

A Millfield schoolgirl who fell to her death from a dormitory roof after celebrating her 14th birthday with vodka had developed a drink problem in her eight months at the school Page 6

Ulster assembly

Ulster will set the pace for the rest of the country today when it becomes the first of the United Kingdom's constituent parts to have its own assembly Page 8

Actress grilled

The actress, Penelope Keith, has been questioned by members of the Actors' Benevolent Fund after she instigated a £10,000 audit of the charity Page 9

MPs defy Cook

Robin Cook faces a fresh dispute over the arms-to-Africa affair after MPs rejected his request to stop questioning Britain's top diplomat Pages 10, 21

Defence at a premium

Greater Manchester Police gave up defending allegations of malicious prosecution in "the Stalker case" after being told that their insurance cover was running out Page 11

Clinton on Taiwan

President Clinton reiterated America's determination not to encourage Taiwanese independence, to the satisfaction of his Chinese hosts, and to the horror of Taiwan's leaders Page 14

Hong Kong blues

Chris Patten has returned to Hong Kong a year after the end of British rule to find the former colony in recession. The stock market has slumped and unemployment is high Page 14

German objective

The German leader, Helmut Kohl, told European bankers that the new currency would give Europe a push towards political union Page 16

Cossack revival

Mounted Russian Cossacks may return to the streets of St Petersburg to enforce law and order, providing an eerie reminder of tsarist rule Page 16

Serbs claim victory

Serbia claims that its security forces have retaken a strategic mine captured by the Kosovo Liberation Army last week, after a two-day battle Page 17

Unknown soldier unknown no more

■ The military tradition of paying homage to America's war dead by burying an unidentified victim in a tomb for unknown warriors could be at an end because of the success of DNA testing. The Pentagon has announced that a body from the Vietnam war interred in the Tomb of the Unknowns is unknown no more Pages 17, 21

RICHARD RAYNER



Students from Durham University in Stockton-on-Tees yesterday as they prepared to attend graduation ceremonies

BUSINESS

Bid for Thorn: Nomura, the Japanese-owned investment bank, is to acquire Thorn, the electrical rental chain, for £980 million. The deal comes two weeks after Thorn agreed to sell its US subsidiaries to Renters Choice Page 25

Ladbroke looms: America's Hilton Hotels Corporation could be set to merge with Ladbroke Group, owner of the Hilton brand in the rest of the world Page 25

NatWest concern: Microsoft has sent a team of engineers to London to tackle problems with Natwest's computer systems Page 25

Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 52.0 to 5,832.5. The pound rose .21 cents to $1.6673 and fell 1.05 pfennig to DM3.0088. The pound index fell to 107.0 from 107.4 Page 28

SPORT

World Cup: A twice-taken penalty by Davor Suker gave Croatia a 1-0 victory over Romania in the second round. The Croats face Germany in the quarter-finals Page 45

Wimbledon: The defending singles champions, Pete Sampras and Martina Hingis, sauntered into the quarter-finals. Sampras beat Sebastien Grosjean, while Hingis beat Tamarine Tanasugarn, both in straight sets Pages 42, 43

Cricket: Ben Hollioake, still five months short of his 21st birthday, is entitled to be starry-eyed as he prepares for the third Test against South Africa Page 41

Rowing: The 159th Henley Royal Regatta opens with action in six of the 17 events and a projected programme of 308 races Page 40

ARTS

Southern spirits: The British Museum's summer special is a show of Maori art that will astonish Eurocentric visitors by its sophistication and delicacy Page 36

Evolutionary zeal: Timberlake Wertenbaker talks about her new play, *After Darwin*, her multinational background, and that extraordinary name Page 37

Bard of Bradford: Benedict Nightingale enjoys West Yorkshire Playhouse's revival of *Rita, Sue and Bob Too*, Andrea Dunbar's tale of the babysitting classes Page 37

Hall on song: After an eight-year separation Sir Peter Hall is back at Glyndebourne for a new staging of *Simon Boccanegra*. He tells John Higgins what persuaded him to return Page 38

FEATURES

Labours of love: *Conspicuous demonstrations of undying adoration can be downright embarrassing for observers subjected to the display* Page 18

Cash flow: Fraud against banks in Britain is much more common than the industry cares to admit. Richard Miles and Patrick Collinson tell you how to protect your money Page 18

Inner woman: Rosalind Mitchell, a Bristol Labour councillor, explains why she decided to undergo a sex-change operation Page 19

Cake craze: Britons now eat almost three million rice cakes a year Page 19

FROM THE CITY

Constructive action: The National House Building Council is cracking down on shoddy workmanship after a rise in disputes between builders and buyers Page 34

House broken: How an elderly couple's dream cottage turned into a nightmare Page 34

THE PAPERS

Mr Clinton's remarks on human rights must be put in perspective. The world is no longer living in the Cold War during which time any concessions to the West from Beijing were automatically a thing to applaud. This is 1998 and the bar on expectations has been raised.
— The Sydney Morning Herald



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FILMS
Geoff Brown gives his verdict on *Six Days, Seven Nights* starring Harrison Ford

■ BOOKS
Peter Ackroyd discovers what drove W. H. Auden; plus Mario Vargas Llosa

TV LISTINGS

Preview: The stars turn out at Althorp. *Diana, Princess of Wales Tribute Concert* (BBC1, 9.30pm).
Review: Joe Joseph on his boredom threshhold Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Westland Revisited

The Foreign Secretary has stalled long enough. He should co-operate with Parliament Page 21

Grandees' Opera

English National Opera and the Royal Opera should share Covent Garden. Britain would not be much of a country if it could not support a great opera house. It does not need two Page 21

Known but to God

The Unknown Warrior, buried among Kings at Westminster Abbey, was conceived as a symbol of the immensity of the sacrifice of the First World War. But now the notion of an Unknown Warrior seems out of date Page 21

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

Has Tony found his "bastards"? At the secret arts summit at Downing Street, the Prime Minister listened in silence at the kings of whinge, led by the Tate Gallery's Sir Dennis Stevenson. It was a turnout of the old guard Page 20

BRONWEN MADDOX

Watching President Clinton reach out to stroke the stony face of a Terracotta Warrior, a day into this extraordinary state visit, I reckoned he might be feeling bereft of the handshakes which normally fuel his expeditions Page 20

ALAN COREN

Hard though it may be for you to believe, I have spent half my years in the ancient purlieu of Cricklewood without once ambling round to the Town Hall to examine the vellum scrolls on which the rights of Cricklewood citizens are inscribed Page 20

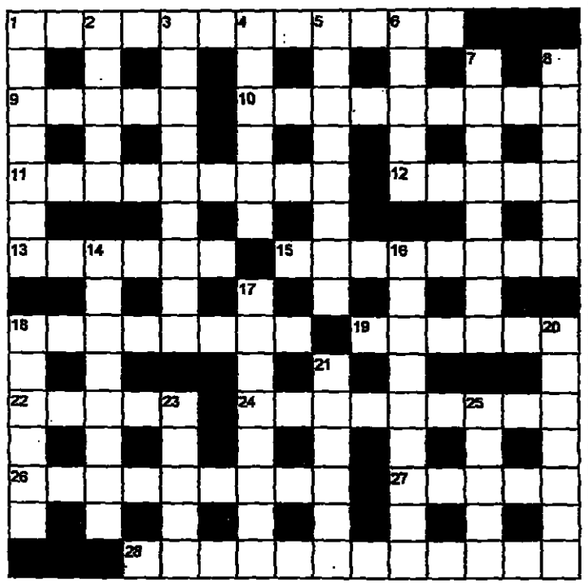
OBITUARIES

Peter Sherman, a director of MI5; **Sir Desmond Heap**, Comptroller and City Solicitor to the Corporation of London, 1947-73; **Jack Rowley**, footballer Page 23

LETTERS

Alastair Campbell on ministers and the BBC; the tsar's burial; feathered fossils; P. G. Wodehouse in Berlin: Page 22

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,832



ACROSS

1 Sort of bowling rated the best (5-7).
9 A number of religious masses? (5).
10 Penalty — type that's often missed (4.5).
11 Official who's ready to reward the workers (9).
12 Over at place where wartime leaders conferred (5).
13 Legal arrangement English county briefly rejected (6).
15 Love papers that can be read repeatedly (3-5).
18 Main study, say, gets clearance (8).
19 The first to print study about tax-fiddling (6).
22 Get the measure of would-be wolf with sex-appeal (5).
24 Homesick learner acting so distractedly (9).
26 Tip of the Indian subcontinent, for example (9).
27 Reading between the lines? (5).
28 Clerk, for instance, whose work is character forming? (6-6).

DOWN

1 Exuberant enjoyment, making this sort of cushion (7).
2 Make concrete here if you've houses (5).
3 Close Open University in bloody topsy-turvy manner (9).
4 Used up one and a half feet, roughly (6).
5 Number extremely plentiful around English holiday resort (8).
6 First gear (5).
7 In a different case, he could be such a tactful sort (8).
8 Reportedly risks cuts of beef, say (6).
14 American picnic food made in oven with meat filling (8).
16 Scrap with the French craft without following up? Not here! (9).
17 Drink punch — it'll make you relaxed (8).
18 Old woman of Paris (6).
20 Couple initially turning up in obscure type of family (7).
21 Is French woman's name found in Bible? (6).
23 Drug you once swallowed for a laugh (2-3).
25 Spare key given to relative (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20831

			T	H	E	B	E	E	S	K	N	E	E	S
A		R		N		A		C		E		D		
S	N	I	G	G	E	R		R	O	U	S	I	N	G
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N	O	R	T	H		O	R	D	I	N	A	N	D	S
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		O		A		C		L		G		E		G
	S	W	I	N	G	T	H	E	H	E	A	D		

Times Two Crossword, page 48

AA INFORMATION

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
4.48 am	9.21 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
12.40 am	12.51 pm

First quarter today
London 9.21 pm to 4.48 am
Bristol 9.30 pm to 4.58 am
Edinburgh 10.02 pm to 4.32 am
Manchester 9.41 pm to 4.45 am
Penzance 9.35 pm to 5.17 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales mainly cloudy with showers in many parts but brief sunny breaks developing. Scotland and Northern Ireland mainly dry with sunny spells.
☐ **London, Cent S England:** cloud and risk of light showers. Light N wind. Max 21C (70F).
☐ **SE England, E Anglia:** cloudy with risk of light showers. Light to moderate N wind. Max 19C (66F).
☐ **Midlands, SW, NW England, Lakes, IoM:** light showers. Light N wind. Max 19C (66F).
☐ **E, Cent N, NE England, Borders:** light showers. Light to moderate N wind. Max 18C (64F).
☐ **Channel Is:** cloudy and dry. Moderate N wind. Max 19C (66F).
☐ **Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland:** cloudy start but sunshine increasing. Moderate N wind. Max 18C (64F).
☐ **SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** dry. Moderate N wind. Max 18C (64F).
☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** plenty of cloud. Fresh N wind. Max 13C (55F).
☐ **Outlook:** sunshine tomorrow with only E and SE England at risk of light showers. Rain likely in Scotland and N Ireland on Friday but dry elsewhere.
☐ **Pollen forecast:** high in NW, SW, SE, Cent S England, E and W Midlands and S Wales; moderate to high in N Ireland, N Wales and East Anglia; moderate in London and S Scotland; low to moderate in NE England; low in N Scotland.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; cl=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.17	14	57	r	Kinloss	-	0.15	14	57	d
Anglesey	2.7	0.01	16	61	sh	Leeds	6.5	0.01	18	64	c
Aspatria	1.7	0.03	16	61	r	Lerwick	5.2	0.01	15	59	b
Aviemore	-	0.03	13	55	d	Leuchars	9.1	0.06	16	61	r
Belfast	1.3	0.01	14	57	r	Lilleshall	7.5	0.70	22	72	r
Birmingham	2.9	0.07	16	61	c	London	5.6	0.39	19	66	s
Bognor R	7.2	0.70	21	70	b	Lowestoft	6.0	0.07	19	66	s
Bournem'th	10.6	0.40	22	72	s	Manchester	0.3	0.01	14	57	d
Bristol	7.0	0.42	20	68	s	Morecambe	-	0.01	16	61	du
Buxton	0.6	0.01	12	54	c	Newcastle	0.6	0.02	14	57	r
Cardiff	X	0.45	20	68	s	Norwich	5.3	0.01	18	64	s
Clacton	10.2	0.34	18	64	s	Oxford	6.3	0.36	19	66	s
Cleethorpes	X					Penzance	X	0.19	20	68	s
Colwyn Bay	3.5	0.01	14	57	c	Poole	8.1	0.31	22	72	s
Cromer	6.1	0.01	17	63	s	Prestatyn	X	0.01	14	57	c
Dunbar	0.1	0.22	13	55	du	Ross on Wye	4.6	0.31	18	64	s
Eastbourne	7.6	0.69	20	68	b	Salcombe	7.2	0.14	22	72	s
Eskdalemuir	0.9	0.03	15	59	s	Saundrs Snd	9.6	0.54	17	63	s
Exmouth	10.0	0.10	21	70	s	Scarboro'	1.5	0.01	14	57	sh
Fishguard	4.5	0.19	15	59	b	Shrewsbury	0.6	0.01	16	61	du
Folkestone	5.3	0.68	19	66	b	Skegness	4.8	-	18	64	d
Glasgow	5.3	0.01	19	66	b	Southend	6.2	0.29	20	68	c
Guernsey	7.0	0.20	20	68	s	Southsea	5.5	0.28	22	72	s
Hastings	4.7	0.60	20	68	sh	Stornoway	X				
Hayling I.	7.9	0.56	21	70	s	Swansea	8.7	0.29	21	70	s
Hove	4.4	0.01	17	63	sh	Teignmouth	9.8	0.12	21	70	s
Hunstanton	2.4	-	17	63	c	Tenby	8.6	0.54	18	64	s
Isle of Man	1.1	0.01	15	59	c	Thee	1.4	0.01	14	57	d
Isle of Wight	9.4	0.55	20	68	s	Torquay	9.8	0.10	22	72	s
Jersey	5.6	0.12	19	66	d	Weston s Mare	8.3	0.87	19	66	s

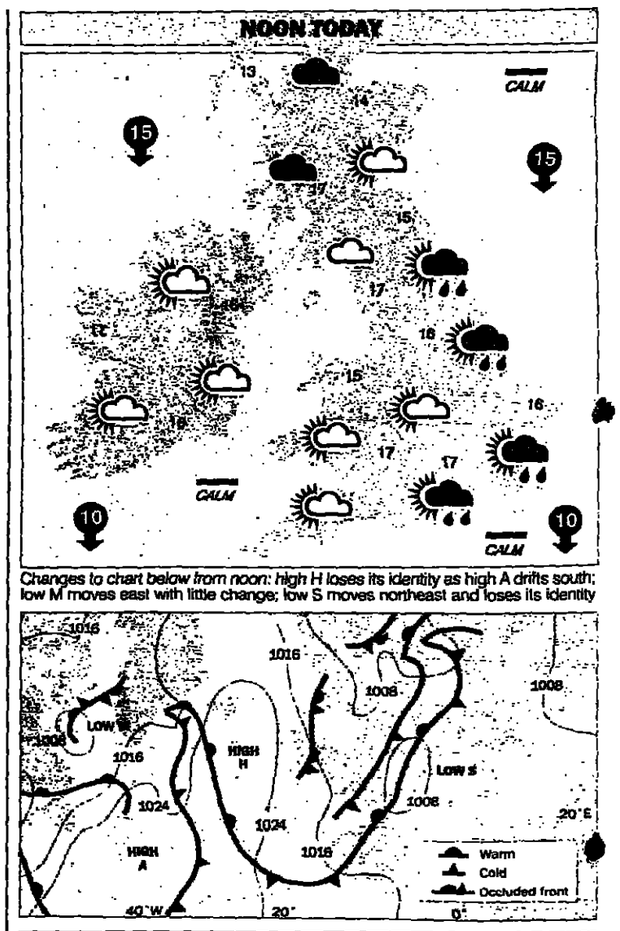
ABROAD

Ajaccio	27	81	s	Corfu	30	86	s	Malaga	27	81	s
Akrotiri	31	88	s	C'phagn	17	63	r	Malta	28	97	s
Alex'dria	28	82	s	Dublin	16	61	c	Mallo'me	12	54	s
Algiers	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	30	86	s	Mexico C	24	75	s
Amst'dm	18	64	r	Faro	24	75	c	Miami	24	75	t
Athens	32	90	s	Florence	32	90	s	Milan	30	86	r
Bahrain	38	100	s	Frankfurt	21	70	c	Montreal	24	75	s
Bangkok	31	88	r	Funchal	22	72	c	Moscow	20	68	c
Barbados	32	90	s	Geneva	25	77	s	Munich	22	72	r
Barcelona	25	77	c	Gibraltar	24	75	r	N Delhi	31	88	r
Beijing	31	88	s	Helsinki	20	68	r	N York	22	72	r
Beirut	27	81	s	Hong K	31	88	r	Nairobi	18	64	b
Belgrade	29	84	r	Innsbrck	23	73	s	Naples	32	90	s
Berlin	20	68	r	Istanbul	31	88	s	Nice	26	79	s
Bermuda	27	81	r	Jeddah	37	99	s	Oslo	19	66	r
Biarritz	20	68	c	Jo'burg	15	59	s	Paris	21	70	r
Borde'x	24	75	r	L Angele	23	72	s	Perth	12	54	r
Brussels	17	63	c	L Palmas	25	77	s	Prague	21	70	r
Budapst	24	75	c	Le Toquet	16	61	r	Reykjavik	12	54	s
B Aires	18	64	r	Lisbon	25	77	s	Rhodes	28	82	s
Cairo	34	93	s	Locarno	27	81	s	Rio de J	24	75	r
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Luxembg	18	64	c	Riyadh	43	109	s
Ch'church	8	46	X	Luxor	38	100	s	Rome	30	86	s
Chicago	26	82	s	Madrid	31	88	s	S Fr'sco	14	57	f
Cologne	19	66	c	Majorca	32	90	s	S Paulo	X		

Salzburg	23	73	r								
Santiago	13	55	c								
Seoul	31	88	s								
Sing'por	33	91	r								
St'kholm	20	68	c								
Strasb'rg	23	73	r								
Sydney	18	61	s								
Tangier	24	75	s								
Tel Aviv	30	86	s								
Tenerife	27	81	f								
Tokyo	27	81	r								
Toronto	30	88	r								
Tunis	42	108	s								
Valencia	28	82	s								
Vanc'ver	20	68	r								
Venice	29	84	s								
Vienna	25	77	r								
Warsaw	22	72	r								
Wash'ton	27	81	r								
Wel'ngton	12	54	X								
Zurich	22	72	r								

Temperatures at midday local on Monday. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high H loses its identity as high A drifts south; low M moves east with little change; low S moves northeast and loses its identity

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	6:09	3.6	18.53	3.4	Liverpool	3.43	8.1	16.14	7.7
Avonmouth	11.48	10.5	-	-	London Bridge	6.31	6.4	18.43	6.1
Belfast	3.50	3.2	16.33	2.8	Lowestoft	2.40	2.1	14.14	2.3
Cardiff	11.34	9.8	23.51	9.8	Margate	4.42	4.2	16.50	4.2
Devonport	10.13	4.6	22.27	4.7	Milford Haven	11.00	5.5	23.21	5.6
Dover	3.40	5.6	16.03	5.8	Newquay	9.59	5.6	22.20	5.7
Dublin	4.28	3.7	17.06	3.4	Oban	10.33	3.0	22.45	3.1
Falmouth	9.44	4.4	21.58	4.5	Penzance	9.27	4.5	21.50	4.6
Greenock	4.46	3.3	17.42	2.8	Portland	11.33	1.2	23.34	1.3
Harwich	4.21	3.5	16.31	3.5	Portsmouth	3.54	3.9	16.48	4.0
Holyhead	2.55	4.8	15.33	4.5	Shoreham	3.39	5.2	16.11	5.2
Hull (Albert D)	10.54	7.7	23.34	7.2	Southampton	3.18	4.0	15.54	4.0
Ilfracombe	10.41	7.3	23.02	7.4	Swansea	11.03	7.7	23.24	7.7
King's Lynn	10.59	5.5	23.49	5.0	Tees	8.37	4.9	21.17	4.6
Leith	7.34	4.7	20.01	4.6	Weston-On-Naze	4.21	3.8	16.32	3.7

Crown copyright reserved. All times GMT. Heights in metres

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Southsea (Hampshire) and Torquay (Devon), 22C (72F); lowest day max: Ballypatrick Forest, Co Antrim, 11C (52F); highest rainfall: Weston super Mare, Somerset, 0.87in; highest sunshine: Bournemouth, 10.6hr.

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THE TIMES 2

25

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY



BUSINESS
Geoffrey Robinson and the connection to Robert Maxwell
PAGE 29



ARTS
Treasures from the land of the long white cloud
PAGES 36-38



SPORT
Henley retains pulling power in rowing world
PAGES 39-48

TELEVISION AND RADIO
PAGES 46, 47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft — WEDNESDAY JULY 1 1998

Japanese investment bank offers £1.2bn for Radio Rentals group

Nomura swoops to buy Thorn



Hands: Thorn will benefit

BY ADAM JONES

NOMURA, the Japanese investment bank, is poised to add Radio Rentals to its growing empire of UK assets after a recommended £1.2 billion offer for Thorn.

The bid came after its Nomura International subsidiary gatecrashed takeover talks between Thorn and another party. The electrical appliances rentals group announced on April 7 that it was in bid discussions and Nomura admitted yesterday that it only made its own approach shortly afterwards.

The Barclay brothers, the owners of the Ritz, are thought to have been interested. GE Capital of the US was also mentioned as another possible bidder.

Nomura owns William Hill, the betting chain, is Britain's biggest pub owner, and has investments in railways and military housing. It is offering 250p for each Thorn share, valuing the group at £980 million and will also take on £192 million of debt. Thorn shares rose 19½p to 230p.

Although the offer represents a 55 per cent premium to the closing price prior to Thorn saying it was in talks, it is still far less than the 402p commanded when Thorn was demerged from Thorn EMI in 1996.

Nomura has already agreed to buy 9.5 per cent of Thorn's share capital from PDFM, the fund manager. PDFM has also promised another 9.6 per cent. Other big shareholders include Capital Group of the US, with just over 10 per cent.

Thorn issued a profits warning in February, prompting the departure of Mike Metcalf, its then chief executive. He was succeeded by Steven Marshall, the finance director.

The group has about 2,200 stores in 20 countries, with about 585 of these in the UK.

As at March 31, it had total assets of £1.1 billion. In the year to March 31, it made pre-tax profits of £69.6 million, on continuing sales of £1.3 billion.

Thorn agreed earlier this month to sell Thorn Americas, its US subsidiary, to Renters Choice for $900 million (£542 million), which Nomura will now receive if its bid is successful.

The US deal involved Thorn maintaining liability for class action lawsuits in Minnesota and Pennsylvania, for which provisions of £20.7 million have already been made.

Nomura said it was happy for the disposal to go through. It also said it will retain the existing management, and adhere to Thorn's strategy of disposals overseas.

It is buying Thorn through Future Rentals, a company funded by its Principal Finance Group. Guy Hands, managing director of Principal, said: "Thorn is a business which will benefit from private ownership, which will enable it to access a wider range of financing arrangements than under its current structure."

Richard Golding, the commercial director of Nomura's Principal Finance Group, said: "For us it is a classic deal. It is a mature business with a good cash flow."

Mr Golding said Nomura will look to hold Thorn as an investment for about three to five years before selling up.

Hugh Jenkins, chairman of Thorn, said: "The offer provides a certain outcome for Thorn shareholders at a full price which reflects the value inherent in the business and has the unanimous recommendation of the board."

If the Thorn offer is accepted, the 9.6p per share final dividend declared for the year to March 31 will not be paid.

Commentary, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5832.5	(-52.0)
Yield	2.82%	
FTSE All share	2743.46	(-20.93)
Nikkei	15830.27	(+464.54)
New York:		
Dow Jones	8952.02	(-45.34)
S&P Composite	1133.84	(-4.65)

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%	(5¹⁵/₁₆%)
Long Bond	107¹⁄₃₂	(105²⁵/₃₂)
Yield	5.63%	(5.65%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7¹¹⁄₁₆%	(7⁵⁵/₆₄%)
Life long gilt future (Sep)	108.68	(108.53)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6677	(1.6685)
London:		
$	1.6685	(1.6653)
DM	3.0116	(3.0196)
FFr	10.0880	(10.1170)
SFr	2.5308	(2.5411)
Yen	231.56	(235.80)
£ Index	107.0	(107.4)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.8075	(1.8110)
FFr	6.0625	(6.0705)
SFr	1.5203	(1.5230)
Yen	138.97	(141.70)
$ Index	112.2	(113.1)

Tokyo close Yen 139.85

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Sep)	$13.90	($13.80)

GOLD

London close	$296.95	($294.15)

Ladbroke in line for link-up with US Hiltons



Demerger of Hilton Hotels has led to an admission by Stephen Bollenbach, the chief executive, that a deal with Ladbroke Group is a possibility

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK AND DOMINIC WALSH

HILTON Hotels Corporation (HHC), the US leisure group, is to split its hotel and casino operations into separate companies, reviving speculation about a possible deal with Ladbroke Group, owner of the Hilton brand name outside America.

Unveiling the demerger plans yesterday, Stephen Bollenbach, chief executive of HHC, admitted a deal with Ladbroke was a possibility, claiming the opportunities for developing the Hilton brand worldwide were "limitless". He added: "I meet with Peter George, the Ladbroke chief executive, on a monthly basis and we always talk about a merger. It's a question of whether we will be able to agree a deal. The biggest impediments are the differences between UK and US capital markets."

According to industry sources in London, Ladbroke carried out due diligence on HHC's 240 hotels, including the landmark Waldorf Astoria in New York, with a view to a possible acquisition once a demerger was completed. It is understood to have placed an $8 billion (£4.8 billion) value on the portfolio.

One leading City analyst said last night: "The prospect of Ladbroke jumping into bed with Hilton has come a step closer. There are still huge tax issues, but the HHC demerger definitely removes one of those hurdles."

A spokesman for Ladbroke, which has always admitted it would be keen on forging closer links with HHC, said: "Given the change in the circumstances, we will review the situation again."

Mr Bollenbach, who will sit on the gaming and lodging company boards, unveiled the HHC demerger at the same time as he announced the acquisition from Grand Casinos, a rival gaming company, of three casinos in Mississippi, the third biggest US gambling market after Las Vegas and Atlantic City.

The $1.2 billion deal, expected to be completed in six months' time, will give HHC shareholders 86 per cent of the enlarged gaming company in the wake of the demerger, with Grand shareholders owning the remaining 14 per cent.

The Grand deal is a case of third time lucky for Mr Bollenbach, who in the past year has made unsuccessful takeover bids worth $10 billion for ITT, owner of Sheraton Hotels, and $4 billion for Circus Circus. He said: "The demerger gives us a chance to pursue new opportunities. That includes the chance to make acquisitions. We want to be the industry consolidator."

Ladbroke and HHC struck a marketing alliance in January 1997 and have repeatedly tried to agree a merger. But the tax and legal implications involved in swapping shares of a US and a UK company have so far thwarted a deal. The two parties have had to content themselves with cementing their alliance culminating in last week's launch of a new unified logo and corporate strategy.

STEPHEN BOLLENBACH stunned Wall Street when he agreed to waive a $75 million share option payout triggered by the demerger.

Mr Bollenbach said he did not want people to get the wrong idea as to why he was splitting the company. His contract stipulates a change of ownership will lead to an automatic conversion of all his share options.

He said: "I was trying to convince people I'm not doing this to get my hands on that money early. The whole thing is irrelevant to me." The options will mature in 2000.

Microsoft flies in anti-bug team to aid NatWest

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

MICROSOFT has flown in a team of top engineers from the US to tackle the worsening problems with NatWest's computer systems, that have caused widespread disruption for customers.

Insiders said the bank had been forced again yesterday to shut down parts of the main retail banking system after testing revealed that the Microsoft software could not distinguish between cleared and uncleared funds.

Much to the consternation of the NatWest board, there were also reports that customers' credit and debit cards were being captured by some of its 3,200 cash dispensers, where the problems of the system are most visible.

Lord Alexander, chairman of NatWest, is said to be most concerned about the computer breakdown, as the system is the key plank in its retail banking expansion plans and the platform of additional customer services.

It is understood that the system failures relate to a bug in Microsoft's Windows NT technology, although NatWest is reluctant to admit this. A source close to NatWest said Microsoft had dispatched a team of top engineers last weekend to assist in the work, even though the software company has programmers working full-time at the bank's offices.

The source said the cash dispensers were just the tip of the iceberg: "The bugs are in the mainframe computer."

Warburg overtaken by Merrill

BY MARTIN WALLER

THE dominance of a handful of international investment banks was emphasised by the latest Extel survey of investment analysts with an overwhelming vote of confidence for Merrill Lynch.

The American investment house polled almost 17 per cent of the votes in the ranking of pan-European analysts and almost 19 per cent in the UK sector, turning the tables on SBC Warburg, last year's winner.

Merrill Lynch, Warburg, BT Alex Brown and HSBC Securities accounted for 58 per cent of the votes in the UK sector. Last year a similar proportion of the votes was shared among six firms.

Commentary, page 27
City Diary, page 29

MFI plans to cut 1,500 jobs after radical shake-up

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

MFI, the ailing kitchens and furniture manufacturer and retailer, is to cut 1,500 jobs as part of a radical shake-up of the business.

The company, which has been the subject of takeover speculation, is also slashing the range of goods stocked from 12,000 to 5,000. It will cut back on kitchenware, textiles and upholstered furniture and concentrate on kitchens and bedrooms. It also plans to shut all its in-store warehouses and instead deliver goods, free of charge, to its customers.

The job cuts will come in the retail business, which now employs 6,000. The 3,000 manufacturing staff will not be affected.

MFI unveiled a 14 per cent drop in pre-tax profits to £60.4 million (£70.3 million) on turnover that rose 5.8 per cent to £894.8 million. The reorganisation cost will be £20 million.

BT Alex Brown, the house broker, chopped its forecast for pre-tax profit this year from £65 million to £10 million post-exceptionals.

Current sales are 10 per cent below the same time last year and Derek Hunt, chairman, said: "We are quite pessimistic about trading from here on in. Rising mortgages do not help our sales."

Earnings per share were down from 8.24p to 7.24p, but the final dividend has been kept at 3.1p, giving a total for the year of 4.9p (4.8p). The shares closed 2½p up at 63p.

Tempus, page 28

Pressure on Akers to quit at Leeds

BY JASON NISSÉ

CHRIS AKERS, chairman of Leeds Sporting, was last night fighting to remain on the board of the group, which owns Leeds United, the Premiership football club.

Attempts to remove him surfaced at a board meeting yesterday at which he asked for a vote of support from the other four board members.

A company spokesman said Mr Akers received the board's backing but it is understood that some leading shareholders may yet take steps to displace him and appoint Peter Ridsdale, who only became a non-executive director in April, as chairman.

The pressure on Mr Akers reflects the poor performance of Leeds Sporting shares. After the company's controversial takeover of Leeds United two years ago, the shares rose from 18p to a peak of 46¾p. However, they have since collapsed to 15½p.

The company has had a turbulent time, hiring Robin Launders from Manchester United as chairman of the football club, then ousting him when talks with Leeds City Council about buying the freehold of the ground at Elland Road ran into trouble.

Mr Akers has said he wants to develop the company as a broadly based sporting and media group. So far this has led only to the purchase of a franchise in the ice hockey superleague and the start of work on a new indoor arena at Elland Road.

City Diary, page 29



Win for Tandem rebels

Rebel shareholders who want to turn Tandem Group from a bicycle maker into a racecourse owner yesterday triumphed at the extraordinary meeting.

The motion to remove Robin Bromley-Martin, Tandem's chief executive, and two other directors, Keith Hamer and Govert Brasser, was approved.

Tops ahead

Tops Estates reported net assets of 246p a share at March 31, up 12.8 per cent. Pre-tax profits rose 18.6 per cent to £2.77 million. The total dividend is raised 7 per cent to 2.74p a share.

Peel profits

Peel Holdings, the property company, reported a 10 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £15.1 million for the year to March 31. Net assets rose 38.7 per cent to 767p a share.

Good break

Break for the Border, the bar and restaurant group, reported profits before tax and exceptionals of £1.9 million, a rise of 9 per cent. A final dividend of 1.3p makes 2p.

Trafford vow

Trafford Park Estates has promised to increase the total dividend by 13 per cent to 14.4p a share in its defence against a hostile £145 million takeover bid by Green Property.

Fit for more

Lady in Leisure Group, the AIM-listed women-only fitness club chain, is to issue shares worth £3.6 million to fund the acquisition of a rival, Curves.

Loyal custom

Safeway, the supermarket group, attributed a 6.4 per cent rise in like-for-like sales in the first 13 weeks since April to its loyalty card.

Blank named

Victor Blank, former chairman of Charterhouse is the new non-executive director and chairman at Mirror Group.

OFT seeks extra £5m to finance new powers

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

THE Office of Fair Trading is demanding an extra £5 million from the Treasury to take on the cartel busting powers which the Government is set to give it.

John Bridgeman, director general of fair trading, said the trading watchdog would require an annual budget of £27 million if the Competition Bill, currently before Parliament, was to be enacted successfully.

The OFT plans to expand its 150-strong competition unit by one third in order to cope with the extra workload which the new legislation will bring when it becomes law next year.

The new law will prohibit companies engaging in practices such as price fixing and market sharing.

Under the Bill the OFT will have far stronger powers to launch investigations, enter and search company premises and stop abuses as and when they occur.

The new law will put the OFT on an equal footing with other competition authorities such as the European Commission and the US Department of Justice upon whom the OFT has frequently had to rely in its fight against cartels operating in Britain.

Although Mr Bridgeman denied the watchdog had a "hit list" of companies that it wanted to target, he said "past experience gives us an idea of where the problems lie".

In the past year the OFT has warned suppliers of health service equipment and sports goods against employing unacceptable practices.

Mr Bridgeman said the Bill was a "landmark" development for the OFT and would banish its "historically ponderous approach". However, he was surprised at the lack of awareness of the legislation in the business community.

Mr Bridgeman urged the Government to match the Competition Bill with a new Consumer Protection Act. He said that consumer law was well past its sell-by date, and that it was hampered by the legal delays in taking action against rogue traders.

More than 861,000 people complained about goods and services to trading standards officers during the past year, a rise of 3.3 per cent over the previous twelve months.

More than 10 per cent of complaints related to problems with used cars. Mr Bridgeman said he expected that the Government would announce new controls over this area in the next few months.

ROBIN MAYES



Richard Lay, left, chairman, and Mark Struckett, chief executive, of Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks, raised pre-tax profits to £7.74 million and the dividend to 3.5p

Insurer's £180m move

SUN LIFE & Provincial Holdings, the French-controlled insurer formed from the merger of Sun Life and Axa Equity & Law, unveiled a £180 million restructuring of its Dutch subsidiary yesterday (Marianne Curphey writes).

The group, Britain's third largest insurer, has sold its Dutch subsidiary Axa Holding NV (Axa Leven) to UAP-NieuRotterdam (UAPNR).

UAPNR is the ninth largest insurer in The Netherlands and is majority-owned by Royal Belge, a member of the global Axa Group.

Sun Life & Provincial said the sale was due to be completed this month. Its shares fell 14p to 552p yesterday.

Electricity regulator gives sale warning

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE two biggest coal-burning electricity generators were threatened with referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission yesterday unless they sell power stations. Professor Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator, has already indicated to National Power and PowerGen that they could have to sell half of their coal-burning stations.

He said: "Voluntary disposal within a short time would be preferable, but a reference to the MMC should not be ruled out." The generators are hoping that he will ask for disposals in line with government wishes, which are for a fifth of coal stations. Even then he could be rebuffed by National Power, the largest generator.

The attack on the generators' capacity, to stimulate competition, will be the biggest shake-up of the power market since it was privatised.

PowerGen is willing to sell capacity because it wants to avoid reference to the MMC over its deal to buy East Midlands Electricity from Dominion Resources. But the company is unlikely to welcome disposal of more than a fifth of its coal stations.

Professor Littlechild said price levels and the reduction in coal-fired capacity by National Power and PowerGen last winter demonstrated "an unacceptable extent of market power", which was "being exercised at the expense of customers and of coal as a fuel for electricity generation".

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Biotechnology jobs 'rise 43% in a year'

BRITAIN'S biotechnology industry employs 10,000 people, 43 per cent more than a year ago, the Ernst & Young consultancy said yesterday. The sector boasts 249 companies, which raised about £100 million in private capital and £130 million through initial public offerings in 1997.

Despite the report, the industry has been under a shadow after setbacks at British Biotech, whose market valuation has fallen ten-fold since peaking at £2 billion in 1996. Its problems will be in the spotlight again today when a parliamentary committee questions Keith McCullagh, outgoing chief executive, and Andrew Millar, former head of clinical trials, about allegations of insider dealing and over-optimism on drug prospects.

Middlesex disappoints

MIDDLESEX HOLDINGS, the distribution group that specialises in Russian trading, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £8 million to £700,000 in the year to December 1997. Sales rose from £178 million to £179 million and earnings fell from 0.62p into a 0.22p loss. The shares fell from 3¼p to 3p. Farhad Moshiri, the new chief executive, said: "While these results are disappointing ... I am optimistic about trading for the current year."

Royal Ordnance deal

ROYAL ORDNANCE, the British Aerospace weapons arm, has won a $163 million (£98 million) contract as sole supplier of high explosives used in shells and warheads to the US Army. Royal Ordnance will operate the Holston Army Ammunition Plant in Tennessee for 25 years from 1999. Some 40 per cent of the explosives will be made at Royal Ordnance's plant in Bridgewater, Somerset, while the Tennessee plant undergoes modernisation.

Zetters seeks two deals

ZETTERS, the football pools and bingo clubs operator, has given up trying to find a single buyer for the business and is seeking instead to sell its pools and bingo interests independently. In the absence of a satisfactory offer, the directors believe the effective break-up of the business will give shareholders maximum value. Further details are expected on July 14, when Zetters announces its results for the year to end-March. The shares fell 9p to 124½p.

ICI selloff postponed

ICI said that completion of its agreement with Du Pont on the sale of the Tioxide Group, originally due yesterday, has been delayed for further study by the American Federal Trade Commission. The sale, for $750 million (£450 million), includes eight companies in Europe, one in Malaysia and the share of a joint venture in AECI in South Africa, but excludes ICI's North American Titanium Dioxide business. The new deadline is December 31.

Greene King purchase

GREENE KING, the regional brewer and pub operator, has acquired Beards of Sussex in a £14 million deal. The acquisition brings Greene King 34 tenancies and nine managed houses in Sussex and Kent. Greene King also reported a 19 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £43.5 million in the year to May 2, from turnover up 12 per cent to £282.9 million. Adjusted earnings reached 54.7p (46.9p) and a final dividend of 13.05p makes 18.35p (16.35p). Tempus, page 28

Japanese shares up again

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPANESE shares surged yesterday, and the yen gained ground, on hopes of decisive action by Japan to clean up its bad loan mess, the biggest single impediment to recovery of the nation's ailing economy.

The Nikkei index climbed 464.54 points or 3.02 per cent, to close at 15,830.27, finishing higher for the fifth consecutive trading day. In Tokyo, the US dollar fell in late trading to 139.94 yen, after climbing to 142.42 yen earlier in the day. The yen was bought amid optimism that Japan is about to present a workable solution to its banking sector woes.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto approved an outline plan designed to prevent bank failures from disrupting the entire banking system. Details will be finalised tomorrow.

Under the plan, the government would create a temporary "bridge bank" out of each commercial bank that fails, to protect credit flows to what Mr Hashimoto termed "healthy borrowers". Bad loans would be assumed by the Resolution and Collection Bank, set up to take over such assets from failed banks.

To finance the bridge banks' loans to borrowers, the government plans to draw on 30 trillion yen ($214 billion) set aside earlier this year.

Kenwood warns City

BY CHRIS AYRES

KENWOOD, the troubled kitchen appliances group, saw its shares fall 15p to 97½p yesterday after it gave warning that strong sterling and the Asian crisis would hit trading.

The warning came as the company, whose shares hit 383p in 1994, reported pre-tax profits for the year to April 3 of £6.2 million, compared with losses of £11.4 million previously. A loss per share of 29.3p turned into earnings of 8.7p.

Colin Gordon, chief executive — who was hired after a shareholder revolt last year — said strong sterling had hit profits by £4 million.

Mr Gordon said the company would focus on design and high-margin manufacturing operations. Kenwood's workforce has already been reduced by 19 per cent, and another 100 redundancies have been announced.

He added that takeover talks with Pifco, Kenwood's rival, had not been revived.

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Borrowers gain from mutuality

BY ANNE ASHWORTH

LOYAL customers of building societies pay less for their mortgages, according to a survey by *Moneyfacts*, the savings and loan information guide.

The report, which underlines the benefits of mutuality, shows that a Coventry borrower, enjoying the special discount given to loyal customers who have been with the society for more than 61 months made interest repayments of £3,880.14 on a £50,000 variable rate loan between July 1997 and June 1998.

That is £455.18 less than a customer of Bank of Ireland whose repayments were £4,335.32. Over the same period, Halifax borrowers paid £4,225.14. The total bill for those with a £50,000 Abbey National variable rate loan was £4,265.75.

Building societies occupy the first 12 places in the league for lower mortgage repayments, with the Nationwide, the fiercest defender of mutuality, coming in fourth. Its borrowers paid £4,007.53.

Nationwide's 4.9 million borrowers will cast their votes later this month in a poll that will determine whether the Nationwide should retain its status or become a bank.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.78	2.61
Austria Sch	22.16	20.50
Belgium Fr	65.22	60.26
Canada $	2.570	2.382
Cyprus Cyp£	0.924	0.853
Denmark Kr	12.04	11.15
Egypt Pound	5.87	5.26
Finland Mrk	9.69	8.94
France Fr	10.55	9.77
Germany Dm	3.17	2.93
Greece Dr	533	494
Hong Kong $	13.74	12.54
Iceland	131	111
Ireland Pr	1.29	1.16
Israel Shk	6.50	5.84
Italy Lira	3140	2903
Japan Yen	246.10	228.67
Malta	0.688	0.629
Netherlds Gld	3.581	3.288
New Zealand $	3.35	3.11
Norway Kr	13.39	12.45
Portugal Esc	320.43	298.40
S Africa Rd	10.46	9.50
Spain Pta	267.53	248.74
Sweden Kr	14.11	13.01
Switzerland Fr	2.68	2.46
Turkey Lira	444913	425035
USA $	1.774	1.631

Rates for small denomination notes only as supplied by Barclays. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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With effect from 1st July 1998

Sterling		Gross paid annually	Gross paid monthly
International Gross Account* *With instant access	£500 - £9,999	6.40%	6.22%
	£10,000 - £39,999	7.25%	7.02%
	£40,000 - £99,999	7.50%	7.25%
	£100,000 - £249,999	7.65%	7.39%
	£250,000 - £999,999	7.80%	7.53%
	£1 million +	8.00%	7.72%

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هكذا من الأصل

Thorny problem of a private life

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Idle Hands is a concept unknown at Nomura. Yesterday the energetic banker and his team were keeping up their adrenalin levels with another major deal guaranteed to leave competitors reeling.

Thorn does not look a steal at 250p a share — if Hands thinks this a good price, then how much better it would have been when the shares were languishing at 140p earlier this year. But they have risen from that floor because a huge element of uncertainty has been taken out of the equation with the agreed sale of the United States business. The price at which that deal has been agreed left Thorn looking undervalued enough to appeal to Hands. The rental operations may be unglamorous but they provide a steady stream of income, just the thing for the securitisation techniques with which Nomura turns its purchases into other people's liabilities.

In giving up its stock exchange quote for a life of privacy under Nomura's wing, Thorn is travelling an increasingly popular path. By happy coincidence, enthusiasm for the public to private route comes from two directions: both disgruntled management and financiers in search of a deal can find the arrangement mutually satisfying. Sometimes, it may even be in the best interests of shareholders.

The stock market's failure to appreciate the attractions of second-line companies has left many mid-cap companies seriously undervalued, and their demoralised management constrained over investment and unable to carry out their plans.

Meanwhile, the private equity funds and fancy financiers such as Nomura are replete with cash and competing for deals. Larger companies have generally shed most of the non-core bits and pieces that fuelled the management buyout boom and turned many an ordinary manager into a millionaire. Now attention has turned to the quoted companies themselves. Several deals have gone through, including the purchase by NatWest Equity Partners of Betterware, the company whose share price simply got worse and worse. Brunner Mond, which only floated in 1996, retraced its steps earlier this year and retired from public view, severely bruised by the experience.

Just before Christmas, Jon Moulton's fast-growing Alchemy bought Wellman and already it seems a deal that could yield gold as the new owners prepare to float part of the company in the US for significantly more than it was valued at in their price.

And there is the rub for shareholders. Selling their company back into privacy can offer an escape from an underperforming asset but what future prospects might they be giving up to the canny buyers? Management and shareholders may not have entirely the same interests when it comes to negotiating a deal, a fact that independent directors will, of course, take into account. Thorn shareholders are being offered a decent premium over the current share price but Mr Hands clearly believes the business is worth even more.

Dawson, industry lose the thread

Yesterday's stream of dismal tidings from business should not go unnoticed by the members of the Monetary Policy Committee as they prepare for their monthly meeting. Their combined message was that the remnants of Britain's manufacturing industry is struggling — another rise in interest rates would be an unnecessary twist of the rack.

Dawson International can make wonderful cashmere sweaters, as well as the Pringle V-necks beloved of Alan Partridge, but the company cannot compete with the cost structure of manufacturers in the third world. It suffers a double Asian whammy, since its top-of-the-range goods have in the past been favourites with the Far Eastern customers who are currently feeling the pinch.

The closure of its Scottish factories will be a major blow to the Borders but has been inevitable for some time. The company admitted as much when it headed off to explore the possibilities of manufacturing in China.

Coats Viyella has similarly been struggling to compete when hampered by the strong pound and increasing money costs. And Kenwood, which manfully strives to produce domestic electrical products in the UK, is being forced to restructure and cut jobs and product lines.

But while the economic background is undoubtedly putting a strain on industry, it is also providing a wonderful catch-all excuse for poor performance. A closer look at the Kenwood case shows that surgery, unpleasant as it may have been, has returned the company to profitability despite reduced sales. Having Julian Treger and Brian Myerson, of the UK Active Value Fund, snapping at your heels is a discomforting experience for management but it can persuade that management to move faster and more effectively.

Active value demands active management and, in the past, neither Dawson nor Coats would have been award winners in this category. When markets are inhospitable, management mettle really shows. Take, for instance, the contrast between the two retailers who were reporting yesterday. At MFI, sales are plummeting, there are to be drastic job cuts and yet more restructuring. At Arcadia, sales are growing at a respectable rate and expansion is the word. Despite its new name, this was, not so long ago, the Burton Group, with a menswear business that seemed set for terminal decline. No longer.

Speech day on the Titanic

Twenty five years ago, when Geoffrey Osmint persuaded Continental Illinois bank to sponsor the first systematic rankings of investment analysts, fund managers were interested in following individual talents, wherever they might work. Quite modest houses such as Wood Mackenzie even specialised in research.

There are still star analysts, some descended in a line going back to WoodMac. Today, however, the annual ranking bow sponsored by Extel is a battle between investment houses, just as the Olympic Games descended into a contest between nations to see which can garner the most gold medals. If the biggest houses find they are not in the top four for research on miscellaneous widgets, they headhunt someone who is.

Fund managers also seem to be less discerning, or just too lazy to dial a different number to consult a specialist. So star analysts who stay with small firms usually lose business and slide down the rankings.

The four leading securities firms, currently Merrill Lynch, Warburg Dillon Read, BT Alex. Brown (inheritor of WoodMac) and HSBC, are opening a big gap ahead of the pack. A year ago, it was the big eight.

They might all be history soon. Jack Brennan of America's Vanguard mutual funds, in a staggeringly tactless speech to the Extel analysts' lunch, told them that the future of investment lay in research-free index-tracking. Devon Malcolm could not have put it better.

Shelling out

SHELL is earmarking a $30 million budget to improve its image. This says more about the skills of the spin-doctors, who have persuaded the company that this extraordinary sum is necessary, than of the management that has agreed with them. The bill would surely buy a complete corporate makeover for British industry. Cynics will be inclined to feel that if the company needs to spend that much, then it really must have something to hide.

Arcadia in designer chain deal

ARCADIA, the Dorothy Perkins to Burton Menswear group, has made a leap upmarket by buying Wade Smith, the Liverpool-based chain of designer clothes shops (Sarah Cunningham writes). It intends to open up to 30 Wade Smith Jnr children's stores.

Arcadia is paying £17.3 million for Wade Smith. The company was founded in 1982 by Robert Wade-Smith and sells Versace, Gucci, Prada, Armani, Dolce & Gabbana, Paul Smith, DKNY and Calvin Klein. It turned over £17.7 million last year.

Arcadia's shares rose 3½p to 402p as the market warmed to the deal and to figures showing retail sales for the 17 weeks to June 27 up 5.5 per cent.

Viyella warning and Dawson sheds staff

By Carl Mortished and Rachel Bridge

COATS VIYELLA gave warning yesterday that the strength of sterling and subdued high street sales were holding back trading. The textiles-to-plastics group, which is doing the splits in October, also announced that Mike Hartley, currently head of contract clothing, would become chief executive of the demerged fashion and garments business, Viyella.

Kirk Stephenson, finance director, said that Mr Hartley proved stronger than external candidates. He was previously managing director of Tootal Clothing which became part of Dewhirst.

Meanwhile, Dawson International joined the growing ranks of UK textile companies shedding staff yesterday as it announced it was closing two factories in the Scottish borders with the loss of 720 jobs. The job losses, intended to make the UK manufacturing base more competitive, reduce the domestic workforce by a fifth and put an exceptional charge of £5.5 million against this year's profits.

Peter Forrest, Dawson chief executive, blamed the job losses on the continuing strength of sterling which had increased the price of lambswool yarn and woollen knitwear garments by up to 30 per cent in key overseas markets. He said the fall in demand had been compounded by the Asian financial crisis, high stocks and current fashion trends away from lambswool.

The company said yesterday it had received some expressions of interest but nothing "remotely close" to an offer.

At Coats Viyella, Mr Stephenson said the environment had worsened since the demerger was announced, with trading for the year so far below the same period last year. Weak demand on the high street continues to dog Viyella's fashion and garment operations but the company reports that contract clothing is ahead of last year.

The stronger pound has affected the results of the thread operations of Coats as well as the engineering businesses in Europe and North America. The company reports weakness in plastics while markets for thread in Europe and South America continue to be weak.

Commentary, this page

PIA fines broker £200,000

By Our City Staff

MARSH & McLENNAN, the insurance broker, has been fined £200,000 by the Personal Investment Authority and ordered to pay costs of £5,000 for pensions review compliance failings.

The broker had failed to meet the PIA's deadline to complete 90 per cent of priority pensions review cases by December 31, prompting intervention by the PIA's pensions monitoring department in February.

Marsh & McLennan subsequently admitted failing to take all reasonable steps to complete the identification of its initial population of cases for review; failing to monitor adequately its pensions review; and failing to comply with the PIA's record-keeping requirements.

Poultry chief to quit Hillsdown

By Robert Cole, City Correspondent

BILL CLARK, a director of Hillsdown Holdings, the food company which is currently breaking itself up, has resigned. He was the chief executive of the poultry division.

The resignation comes in the middle of Hillsdown's attempt to sell its poultry interests. It also comes in the face of a weakening Hillsdown share price. The shares fell another 2p yesterday to 162p, and now trade 23 per cent lower than the 217p a share offer tentatively put by rival Unigate in its abortive May bid for Hillsdown.

Hillsdown said it has received 40 expressions of interest from buyers for the poultry business and that it would probably be sold to a venture capital-backed consortium. It added Mr Clark was within a year of retirement.

Mr Clark's departure is, however, the latest in a long line of boardroom changes at Hillsdown. Most recently Ray MacKie, finance director, stepped down and George Greener, the chief executive, has also given notice of his intention to leave.

Michael Teacher, who becomes chief executive when Mr Greener goes, said of Mr Clark's departure: "It was all very friendly." Mr Clark had a 12-month service contract and last year was paid a basic £240,000 ands a £48,000 bonus. Mr Teacher said the compensation for loss of office had not been finalised.

Apart from poultry, Hillsdown is trying to sell its furniture companies while floating off Fairview Homes, the property company, and the chilled food segment.

Tempus, page 28

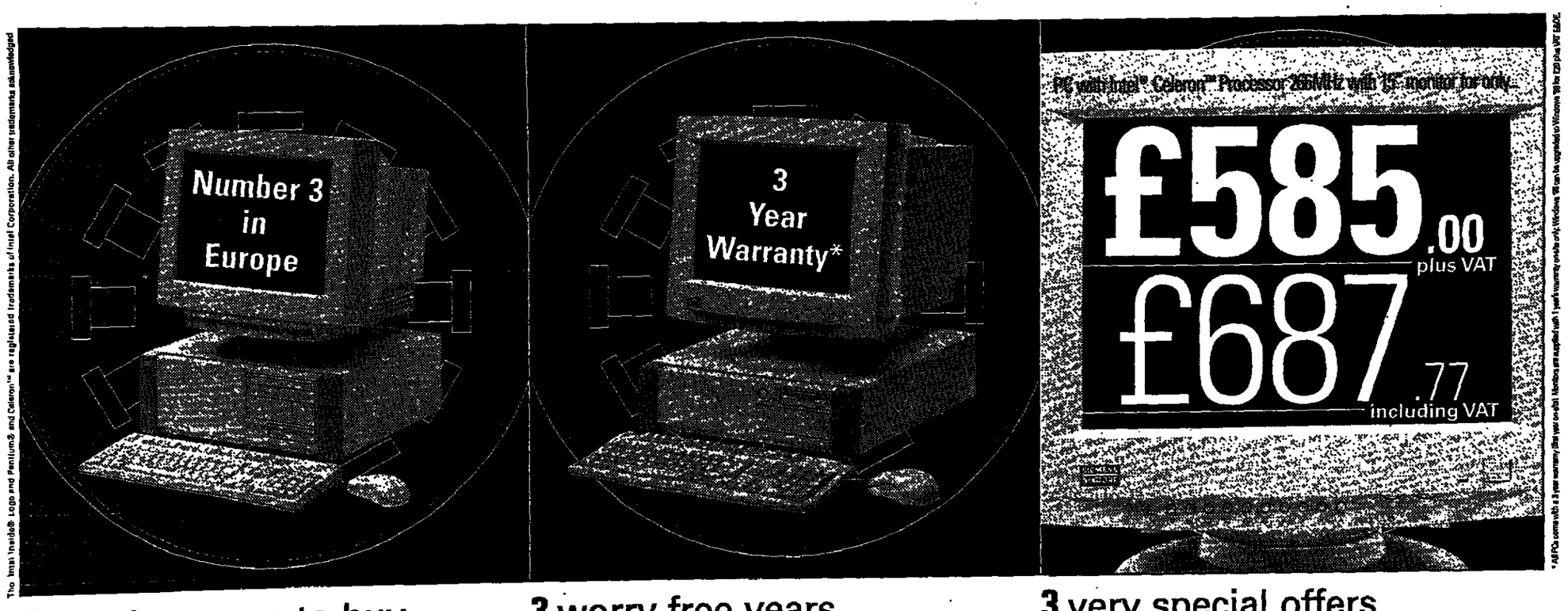
C&L-Price merger complete

A GIANT in the world of accountancy and business consultancy is created today when the merger of Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand is completed. Conceived last September, the merger unites two of the so-called big six accountancy firms.

The enlarged group will be the second largest in the world behind Arthur Andersen and ahead of rivals KPMG, Ernst & Young and Deloitte Touche and Tohmatsu.

There had been a question mark over the deal after the merger plans of KPMG and Ernst & Young collapsed. The enlarged group, to be known as Pricewaterhouse Coopers, will have combined revenues of £13 billion.

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STOCK MARKET — MICHAEL CLARK

Stock Market Writer of the Year

Psion sale gives Fiszman an estimated £12m profit

AS ONE of London's best-known diamond merchants Daniel Fiszman is used to sparkling performances and this year has been full of them.

Not only did his beloved Arsenal, where he is a main board director and one of its biggest shareholders, win the League and Cup double, but yesterday he scooped an estimated £12 million profit from the sale of part of his holding in **Psion**, the handheld computer manufacturer.

Fiszman, who is also a non-executive director of Psion, has taken advantage of the phenomenal rise in its share price during the past ten days to cash in. He has disposed of a parcel of 2,003,600, or 2.63 per cent, worth £13.8 million at prices of 682p and 600p. He continues to own 2.36 million shares, or 3.06 per cent.

The share price touched 632½p before ending 42½p off at 650p. Only last week, when it stood at 250p, the group announced a tie-up with Nokia, Ericsson and Motorola to develop a new generation of smart phones.

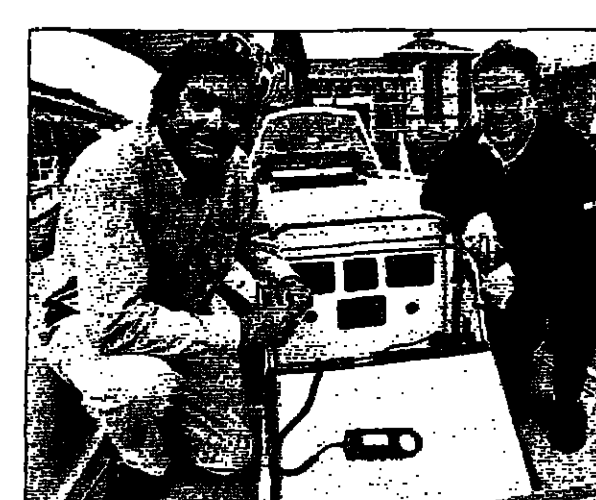
Interest rate worries continued to dominate the market with investors taking a step back ahead of next week's meeting of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee. Share prices closed near their low of the day with the FTSE 100 index falling 52.0 to 5,832.5. It was not helped by an opening fall in the Dow Jones industrial average of almost 70 points.

Trading conditions were thin as the half-year drew to a close with investors heading for home early to watch England take on Argentina. Total turnover reached just 824 million shares.

Engineering shares were chased higher after Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, told clients recent falls had been overdone. **Tomkins** rose 11½p to 325¼p, **LucasVarity** 5p to 238p, **Rolls-Royce** 4p to 247½p, **Siebe** 12p to £11.97, and **British Steel** ¼p to 131¾p. Rival broker Albert E Sharp has taken a shine to TI Group, but the price fell 4p to 455p.

News of an agreed bid for **Thorn**, up 19½p at 230p, came late. Buyout specialist Guy Hands of Nomura is offering 250p a share, valuing the share capital at £980 million.

It was the first day of trading as a constituent of the FTSE 250 index for **Arm Holdings**, up 80p at £11.85. It replaces Christie's International, which was recently acquired by Artemis.



Hugh Agnew, left, with Robert Hill, managing director of Brookes & Gatehouse, which has been bought by Yeoman

PowerGen, down 30½p at 832p, and **National Power**, 13½p off at 564p, were two early casualties in the electricity sector after the industry regulator criticised their winter price rises and said they would have to dispose of power generating capacity.

Further bearish comments from brokers left **Tate & Lyle** 4¾p lower at 475¼p. ABN Amro Hoare Govett has reduced its recommendation from "buy" to "undervalued".

Shares in AIM-listed **Yeoman Group** returned from suspension at 81p after announcing the acquisition of Brookes & Gatehouse, a maker of high-tech equipment for the international sailing market, for £2.7 million. Yeoman, whose managing director is Hugh Agnew and which has pioneered the use of global positioning for marine use, intends to raise £1.4 million by way of a placing and open offer at 80p on the basis of 23 shares for every 50 held. Yeoman closed at 81½p.

The collapse in bid talks that had been going on since February left **Zetters**, the bingo and pools operator, down 9p at 124¼p. AIM-listed **International Asset Management** said it could not understand the reason for the rise in its shares, which ended the day 10p better at 47½p. The company said it is still on the lookout for acquisitions but was not in a position to make an announcement.

A profits warning left **Richardsons Westgarth** nursing a loss of 19½p at 60½p. The steel stockholder blamed cheap imports and overstocking for the setback. A profits warning also hit **Kenwood Appliances** down 15p to 97½p, damaged by the strong pound and the Asian crisis.

William Sinclair, down 38½p at 174½p, revealed profits for the current year will be not much different from the £423,000 achieved last year. **Dawson International**, down 5p at 41p, has shed 720 jobs and closed two factories as the economic crisis in Asia continued to wreak havoc.

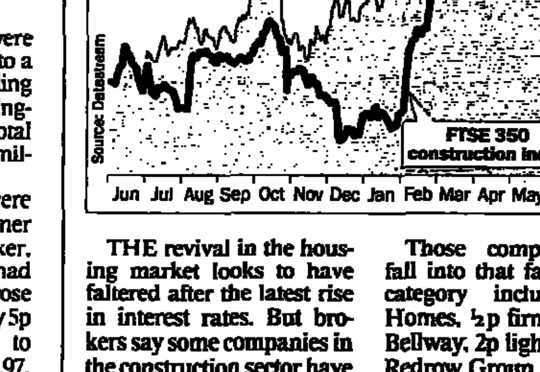
PIC International stood out with a rise of 10p at 225p as Sir Denys Henderson, chairman, made his second foray into the market in less than a week to pick up shares in the food producer. This time he paid 219p each for 100,001 shares, bringing his holding to 186,000, or less than 1 per cent.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Support for the ultra-long end of the market enlivened a dull session. July's auction will involve the issue of a new December 2009 series.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt rose £0.15 to £108.68 as 40,000 contracts were completed. The short-dated future put on just £0.01 at £102.87 on turnover of 69 contracts. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 rose £15/32 to £130½, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was a tick better at £101 25/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street slipped as investors moved out of blue chips in end of quarter selling. At the close the Dow Jones industrial average was down 45.34 points at 8,952.02.

BRICKS AND MORTAR



THE revival in the housing market looks to have faltered after the latest rise in interest rates. But brokers say some companies in the construction sector have been oversold.

Andy Bell, at BT Alex Brown, the broker, said: "We believe the present share price underperformance within the sector has been overdone.

"We continue to advocate sticking with those builders that have long owned land banks, large holdings of land or have a successful track record of conversion."

Those companies that fall into that fall into that category include, Bovis Homes, ½p firmer at 227p, Bellway, 2p lighter at 308p, Redrow Group, 2½p easier at 149½p, and Wilson Bowden, down 19½p at 623½p.

But Bell gives warning of a summer of possible profit downgradings and consolidation for building materials and builders' merchants.

Support should be restricted to Graham Group, steady at 151p, and Aggregate Industries, 1p lower at 68¾p.

MAJOR INDICES

New York:	
Dow Jones	8952.02 (-45.34)
S&P Composite	1133.84 (-4.65)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	15830.27 (+464.54)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	8543.10 (+82.39)
Amsterdam:	
AEX Index	1200.30 (+2.44)
Sydney:	
AO	2668.4 (+47.3)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	5897.44 (-17.69)
Singapore:	
Straits	1066.66 (-18.49)
Brussels:	
General	20950.65 (+454.20)
Paris:	
CAC-40	4203.45 (-44.79)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1643.00 (+0.20)
London:	
FT 30	3790.2 (-26.4)
FTSE 100	5832.5 (-52.0)
FTSE 250	5503.8 (-17.5)
FTSE 350	2812.0 (-22.1)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2890.83 (-22.57)
FTSE All-Share	2743.46 (-20.93)
FTSE Non Financials	2807.66 (-20.67)
FTSE Fixed Interest	144.02 (+0.34)
FTSE Govt Secs	105.08 (+0.30)
Bargains	62180
SEAQ Volume	824.7m
US$	1.6673 (+0.0021)
German Mark	2.0088 (-0.0105)
Exchange Index	107.0 (-0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.5217
£:SDR	1.2535
RPI	163.5 May (4.2%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	161.3 May (3.2%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

ATA Group	152½	+1
AdVal Group	67½	...
Advance Dev Mkts	102	...
Anglo Siberian Oil	107½	...
BTR Red Prf B	34½	...
Biocmptls Warrants	22½	-4
British Regional Air	163½	...
Capt OM Watts Wrnts	2	...
Captain OM Watts (4)	6	...
City Gourmets	66	-4
Dresdner RCM End	98½	...
GRE Red Prf B	15	-2
Game	208	-2½
Goldshield	217½	...
HW Group	136½	-2½
Hamleys B	22	...
INVESCO Cntl Smr Cs	94	...
ITNET (350)	436	...
Interior Services	135	...
JSB Software Techs	228	...
JWE Telecom	140½	-1
Murray Financial	11¼	...
New Look Group	152	-½
Quantica	149½	-½
Taiwan IT GDR	131½	...
Taylor & Francis	233½	...
Tricorder Tech	100½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

LEPCO n/p (40)	2	...
Martin Intl n/p (36)	2	...
Omnimedia n/p (60)	24½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Waste Mgt Intl	329p (+64p)
Thorn	230p (+19½p)
Airflow Stream	183p (+13p)
Holmes Place	240½p (+16p)
PIC Intl	225p (+10p)

FALLS:

Kenwood App	97½p (-15p)
Hamleys	214p (-22p)
Wickes	282½p (-25p)
Telewest	141p (-11½p)
First Choice	155½p (-12p)
Abacus Recruit	225p (-15p)
Psion	650p (-42½p)
Shield Diag	467½p (-20p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

A tasty tipple

WITH takeover speculation hanging over the likes of Vaux and Ushers and investors in Greenalls and Wolverhampton & Dudley still smarting from last year's profit warnings, regional brewing is a sector in disarray.

It is an altogether happier story at Greene King, whose shrewd mix of community pubs, tenancies and managed houses is nicely complemented by its commitment to brewing and ownership of strong brands. Abbot Ale and Greene King IPA, supported by heavy marketing investment, continue to defy gravity and increase sales in a cask ale market down by 15 per cent in volume terms on last year.

Greene King's skill has been in picking its way carefully through numerous potential pitfalls. Its managed pub division has avoided a headlong rush into the high street, where the big boys are scrapping it out, choosing instead to focus on its community pubs. While others have sold off their slow-growth tenanted estates, Greene King has beefed them up. It has improved the package offered to landlords while selling off poorer sites and topping up with acquisitions such as yesterday's £14 million purchase of Beards of Sussex. Greene King's record suggests the City would not be slow to support a more substantial deal, and chief executive Tim Bridge's uncharacteristically firm "no comment" on the subject of Regent Inns could be significant.

Panmure Gordon is forecasting pre-tax profits this time next year of £48.1 million and earnings per share of 60.3p, valuing the shares — up 16½p to 727½ yesterday — at an undemanding 12.1 times 1999 earnings. Buy.

MFI

MFI'S big idea two years ago was to start selling more houseware bits and pieces to encourage the punters into the shop to splash out on a new kitchen or wardrobe. The big idea now is *not* to sell the bits and pieces — apparently they get in the way — but instead to concentrate on encouraging the kitchen and bedroom furniture sales. *Confused? Well, you are not alone.* MFI's shareholders, and in all likelihood the customers, must be feeling a little dizzy at the speed of the volte-face.

The cost of the change in direction is huge. The reduction in the number of goods on offer alone is going to cut turnover by 15 per cent, while redundancy and other costs are going to result in profits falling 50 per cent this year.

Next year, with the one-off costs out of the way, should see profits begin to grow again. A lot depends on sales improving, however, and that is far from certain.

Shareholders casting their minds about for a potential buyer for the business could come up with some obvious candidates, such as Kingfisher. But the shares are not particularly temptingly rated, at 16 times forecast earnings for the current year.

The danger is that MFI will grind along, with its customers becoming increasingly disenchanted with having to have their goods delivered rather being able to pick them up at the shop. Unless a buyer emerges, neither the prospects nor the shares look at all attractive.



Peel Holdings

PEEL HOLDINGS' Trafford Centre may not be much loved by the pop star Mick Hucknall, who has refused to launch the new Selfridges store there on the ground that the new out-of-town shopping complex is in "bad taste", but it is certainly doing this property developer absolutely no harm at all.

Some 90 per cent of the 240 outlets in the centre are already let on 25-year leases ahead of its opening in September and the company is confident it will have close to full occupancy by the time the doors open for business.

With some eight million people — more than 10 per cent of the UK population — living within a one-hour drive of the shopping centre, the company is hoping that even if the economy in the North West does start to slow there will still be more than enough customers passing through the doors to keep the cash tills ringing.

With retailers tied into 25-year leases, the company has not only bagged itself a steady income, it has also managed to give itself a high degree of immunity against rises in interest rates.

The catch is twofold. First, the Peel golden egg has not gone unnoticed — its shares have risen by more than a third over the past year to 713½p and are now trading not far short of an all-time high. Second, the stock is so tightly held that it is hard to get hold of the shares.

That is a shame, because this is clearly a company whose shares are worth having.

Hillsdown

HILLSDOWN, the food manufacturer, embarked on a campaign to unlock shareholder value in the early part of March this year. It started promisingly with demerger proposals and continued most encouragingly when rival food producer Unigate seemed ready to bid. But since the collapse of those takeover talks at the end of May the task of picking the Hillsdown padlock seems to have gone sadly awry.

The shares, after another disconcerting senior level resignation yesterday, languish at 164p.

That is still above the 142½p February nadir, but it is fully 23 per cent below the 217p price at which Unigate nearly bid. The shares also trade at a 50p-ish discount to break-up value estimates.

Some of the share price decline has come as Unigate-hopeful arbitrageurs sold holdings after that deal fell through. Now those arbs are largely out of the way, the shares should not fall any further.

Au contraire. There is room to make a quickish turn on the shares either as Hillsdown breaks itself up or if bid excitement is reignited.

Buy.

ROBERT COLE

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Jul	1005 BTD	Sep	1145-1140
Sep	1044-1043	Dec	1165-1160
Dec	1071-1070	Mar	1180-1175
Mar	1097-1096	unq	
May	1110-1108		
Jul	1125-1120	Volume: 25429	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	1572-1571	Mar	1617 SLR
Sep	1602-1598	May	1622-1608
Nov	1606-1601	Jul	1626-1620
Jan	1615 SLR	Volume: 6548	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	256.0-55.0
Spot: 262.6		May	258.5-56.6
Aug	255.5-55.0	Aug	262.0-58.1
Oct	251.5-50.5	Oct	262.5-57.5
Dec	251.5-50.0	Volume: 2660	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on June 29

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	63.38	118.57	91.66
(+/-)	-2.00	-0.12	+0.19
Eng/Wales:	63.13	118.73	91.14
(+/-)	-2.05	-0.11	+0.22
(%)	n/c	+18.0	+13.0
Scotland:	68.53	116.93	96.26
(+/-)	-1.17	+0.29	+0.19
(%)	+5.0	+49.0	+8.0

ICIS-LOR (London 8.30pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	11.85	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Aug)	13.35	+0.15
Brent 15 day (Sep)	13.90	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	14.15	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	14.60	n/c

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	157 (+1)	160 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	111 (+1)	113 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	65 (-1)	67 (-1)
Naphtha	119 (+3)	122 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jul	118.25-18.50	Oct	130.75-31.00
Aug	123.00 SLR	Nov	133.75-34.25
Sep	127.00-27.25	Vol: 23733	

BRENT (8.15pm)

Aug	13.35-13.37	Nov	n/a
Sep	13.88-13.91	Dec	14.65-14.69
Oct	14.24-14.25	Vol: 46647	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jul	74.50	Sep	69.75
Sep	72.00	Nov	72.25
Nov	74.15	Jan	74.25
Jan	76.15	Mar	76.25
Mar	78.15	May	77.75
Volume: 177		Volume: 5	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	80.0
Mar	—	110.0
Apr	156.0	160.0
		Volume: 76

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)

Jul 47.75-48.25

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jun 98	—	—	871
Jul 98	815	795	795
Aug 98	820	795	795
Oct 98	925	925	915
Vol: 91 lots			Open interest: 1715

Index 856 -8

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1618.0-1619.0	1635.0-1636.0	1449025
Lead ($/tonne)	544.00-545.00	545.00-546.00	320950
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	988.00-989.00	1014.0-1015.0	962625
Tin ($/tonne)	5600.0-5610.0	5485.0-5490.0	23575
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1284.0-1285.0	1314.0-1315.0	1491550
Nickel ($/tonne)	4280.0-4285.0	4355.0-4360.0	109410

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jul	Oct	Jan	Puts Jul	Oct	Jan
ASDA	200	9	18½	27	3½	12	17
(*207)	220	1	9½	18	15	23	26
Abbey Nat	1050	37½	91½	127½	16½	83	82
(*1066½)	1100	14½	67	102½	45½	88½	107
All&Leic	750	55½	95	116½	6	36½	48
(*798)	800	23	68	91½	23½	59½	72½
Alld Dom	550	18½	41½	54	7	21½	34½
(*560½)	600	1½	19	31	40	49½	62½
BAA	600	51	77½	89	1½	17½	25½
(*648)	650	15	48½	62	15½	35½	46½
BAT Ind	550	52	72	92½	2½	20½	32
(*598½)	600	16½	46½	66½	16	43½	55½
Barclays	1700	59½	141½	196	23	90½	115
(*1731½)	1800	16½	94½	146	79½	144	166
Bass	1100	44½	98	118	20	50½	71½
(*1121)	1150	20	72½	92	46	74½	95
Boots	950	56	104	130½	8	36½	53½
(*996½)	1000	24	78	105	25½	59	76½
Br Airways	600	51½	83½	99½	4	23½	34
(*646)	650	18½	57	73	20	45	56½
BP	850	38	78	105	12	43½	57½
(*873)	900	15	53	80	36½	69	80½
Br Steel	130	6	14	18	3½	8½	11½
(*132)	140	2	9½	13½	9½	14	17½
C&W	700	40½	77	103½	12	42	51
(*730)	750	14½	52	79½	35½	66½	75½
CU	1100	47	110	135	25½	81½	88
(*1118½)	1150	24	85½	110	53	107	113
GlaxoW	1800	57½	153½	214	46	125	154½
(*1807)	1900	18½	109½	166½	108½	181½	208½
HSBC	1500	58½	148	200½	35	118½	147
(*1518½)	1600	20	104½	154	95½	175	199½
Halifax	750	41	78	96½	9½	41½	47
(*779½)	800	14½	53	71	33	65	70
ICI	950	36	79½	108½	16½	54½	68½
(*965½)	1000	14½	56	83½	44	80½	94
Land Sec	900	37½	78	100	7½	31½	45½
(*927½)	950	10½	51½	73	31	54½	68
M&S	500	49	68½	79	1	12½	19½
(*547)	550	11½	38	53	14	30½	39½
Nat Pwr	550	26½	59½	73	10½	26½	40
(*566½)	600	5½	36½	50	38	53½	66
Nat West	1050	41½	89½	128	16	58	80½
(*1072½)	1100	17	64½	103	41½	83½	105½
Reed Intl	500	44½	67	80	2½	20½	24½
(*541)	550	11½	40	53	20	43	47
Rentkl	645	50½	81	—	5½	30	—
(*688)	703	15½	50½	—	28½	57½	—
Ryl&Sun	600	28	61½	79	11	40½	49
(*612½)	650	8	40	56½	41½	68½	76½
Safeway	390	12½	35	45½	8½	24	32½
(*394)	420	2½	22	32	28	40½	49
Sainsbury	500	37	59	75½	4½	20½	27½
(*532½)	550	8	34½	50	25	43½	51½
Shell	420	11½	30	40½	9	23	38½
(*422)	460	1	13½	24	38½	47	52
SmKl Bch	700	41½	84½	109	12½	44	60
(*730½)	750	16	60	85½	36	68½	85
Std Char	650	47	94½	117	14	59½	68
(*681½)	700	30	71	94	38½	81½	94
Thames W	1050	52	92	114½	15½	43½	55½
(*1096)	1100	20	68½	87½	42	68	79
Vodafone	750	31½	80	105½	19½	52	68
(*761)	800	11½	56½	81½	47	78½	93½
Woolwich	324	14	32½	—	7½	22½	—
(*329)	354	3½	20	—	27	40	—
Zeneca	2500	114½	239	320	34	127½	168
(*2573)	2600	58½	189	269½	77½	175½	216
(*678)	700	26	50½	70	41	60½	69
Redland	330	15½	—	—	½	—	—
(*345)	360	½	—	—	15½	—	—
R-Royce	240	18½	28	36	8½	15½	20
(*248)	260	9½	19	26½	18½	28	30½
Tesco	550	52½	70	87	12½	24½	32½
(*584½)	600	25	45½	61½	34	47½	56½
Utd Bisc	240	12	18	24	9	14½	19
(*240½)	260	4½	10½	15½	22	26½	30½

	Series	Calls Aug	Nov	Feb	Puts Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	152	24	39½	—	3	7½	—
(*171½)	177	9½	16½	—	12½	19	—
Blue Circ	330	22½	34	41½	13½	24	28½
(*335½)	360	9½	21½	28½	31	41½	45½
Br Aero	450	34½	53½	—	18½	33½	—
(*458)	475	22½	41½	—	31½	45½	—
Br Telcom	700	57	80½	98½	20	37½	51
(*737½)	750	30	55	73½	44	61	75
Cadbury	900	61	90	115½	24½	44	55½
(*937½)	950	35	64	90	48½	68	79½
Carlton Cms	500	49½	65	81½	12½	26	29
(*533½)	550	20½	42½	56½	35	47½	53½
Diageo	671	68	—	—	16½	—	—
(*712)	729	36	—	—	42	—	—
Energy Gp	800	42	46	—	½	1	—
(*840)	850	½	4	—	10½	10½	—
Gallaher	330	18	26	36	13	25	32½
(*332)	360	7	14	24½	31	44	51
GEC	500	38	55	69	13½	35	42½
(*516½)	550	15½	33½	47	49	63½	70½
Hanson	360	19½	31½	41	13½	22	26
(*364)	390	7	16	29½	31	37½	41
Imp Tob	420	32	46	53	7½	15½	25
(*440½)	460	12	25	32½	26½	34½	45½
Kingfshr	950	59½	93	122	32½	55½	65½
(*989)	1000	35½	68	96½	56½	79½	89½
Lasmo	240	16	24½	32½	11	15	18
(*240½)	260	8	19	24	22½	26	29
Ladbroke	330	21½	33	42	16½	28	33
(*331)	360	9½	21	29½	35	45½	50
LucasVar	240	14	23	29	10½	17	21½
(*240)	260	6½	14½	20½	21	28	33
P&O	850	43½	65½	87	21	41	50
(*864½)	900	20	41½	62½	48	67½	76
Prudentl	750	71	98	122½	23½	42½	56½
(*790)	800	43½	73	98	45½	66½	81
Rio Tinto	650	52	75	94½	19	31	44

	Series	Calls Sep	Dec	Mar	Puts Sep	Dec	Mar
BG	330	30	40½	49½	10½	18	23
(*346)	360	15	26	35½	25	33½	37½
BSkyB	420	33	48½	58½	18½	27	32
(*432½)	460	15½	31	38	40½	48	53½
Br Bio	35	8½	12	15	5½	7½	8½
(*36½)	40	6½	10	13½	8½	10½	11½
Centrica	100	9	12½	17	6½	6½	8
(*101½)	110	4½	8	12½	12½	12	13½
Dixons	460	38	55½	66	16½	25	31
(*482½)	500	21½	36	47	37	45	51½
EMI	500	51	68	82	23½	37½	48
(*525½)	550	27½	45	59½	51½	64½	74½
Granada	1100	66	98	117½	48½	66	82
(*1101½)	1150	43½	73	93	76	92	107½
GUS	750	67½	86½	101½	21½	38	49½
(*789½)	800	39½	60½	76	45	61½	73
Lloyds TSB	800	79½	108½	129½	35½	52½	69½
(*837½)	850	54	84	104½	60	77½	94
Lonrho	256	34	—	—	6	—	—
(*281½)	288	15½	—	—	21	—	—
Norwich	420	39½	55	68	18	27½	34½
(*436)	460	21	36½	48½	39½	48½	55
Orange	600	77	88½	115	31	49	56½
(*636½)	650	51½	74	91½	55	74½	82
Railtrack	1450	117	168	206	79½	115	155½
(*1472½)	1500	88	143	182	103½	140	181
Scot Pwr	500	54½	72½	82½	21	28½	39
(*528)	550	30½	47½	58	45½	53	63½
Tarmac	100	12	14	16½	3	4½	6½
(*107½)	110	6½	9	12	7	9½	11½
Tomkins	300	31½	38	43	8	11½	14½
(*325½)	330	14	22	27½	21½	25½	29
Unilever	600	58½	84	99½	17½	26½	34
(*641½)	650	40	58½	73	38	48½	57

June 30 Total: 21646 Calls: 11326 Puts: 10320

FTSE INDEX (*5829)

Strike	Calls Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Dec	Puts Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Dec
5650	238½	329	395	462	—	41	123½	159½	194½	—
5700	202	292½	363	418	548	54	137	181	201½	258½
5750	165½	262½	332½	384½	—	68	154½	202	227	—
5800	134	232½	302½	354½	486	86½	172	220½	248	296½
5850	105	202	272½	328	—	108	190	240	270½	—
5900	79½	171	242½	302	421	134½	211½	266½	294	336
5950	58½	149	217½	276	—	164½	239	284½	317½	—
6000	41½	126½	195½	249½	358½	200	267	310½	341½	384½

June 30 Total: 2064 Calls: 637 Puts: 1427 *Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Sep 98	108.39	108.70	108.28	108.68	40378
Previous open interest 129002	Dec 98				108.90	0
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Sep 98	108.41	108.41	108.28	108.36	11482
Previous open interest 75361	Dec 98				107.76	0
Five Year Gilt	Sep 98	102.80	102.80	102.78	102.87	69
Previous open interest 3353	Dec 98					0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Sep 98	120.38	120.42	120.10	120.32	25063
Previous open interest 101150	Dec 98	106.55	106.55	106.55	106.62	200
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 98	132.70	132.73	132.53	132.54	3205
	Dec 98				132.33	0
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 98	92.070	92.110	92.070	92.100	19710
	Dec 98	92.110	92.150	92.110	92.150	25152
Previous open interest 972902	Mar 99	92.270	92.320	92.260	92.310	20449
Three Mth Euromark	Sep 98	96.320	96.330	96.310	96.325	41693
Previous open interest 2311618	Dec 98	96.075	96.085	96.070	96.080	27517
Three Mth Eurolira	Sep 98	95.510	95.520	95.480	95.480	24240
Previous open interest 697569	Dec 98	96.000	96.010	95.980	96.000	5634
Three Mth Euroswiss	Sep 98	97.900	97.990	97.900	97.940	20541
Previous open interest 191778	Dec 98	97.770	97.840	97.770	97.800	12020
Three Mth Euro	Sep 98	95.770	95.775	95.765	95.775	173
Previous open interest 32076	Dec 98	96.030	96.040	96.030	96.040	135
FTSE 100	Sep 98	5960.0	5961.0	5882.0	5891.0	18472
Previous open interest 157364	Dec 98	5997.0	5997.0	5997.0	5983.0	50

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7½ Finance Hse 8

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¾ Low 7 Week fixed: 7¾

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7⅛ ; 3 mth 7⅛ . Sell: 2 mth 7⅛ ; 3 mth: 7⅛ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	7⅜-7¼	7⅜-7¼	7⅜-7¼	7⅜-7¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	8-7⅞
Interbank:	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	8-7⅞

Overnight: open 7¾, close 7½ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	7½	n/a	7¾	7⅞	7¾
Sterling CDs:	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾
Dollar CDs:	5.56	n/a	5.59	5.66	5.79
Building Society CDs:	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5½-4½
Deutschemark:	3½-2⅞	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3½	3½-3½	4-3
French Franc:	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3½	3½-2½
Swiss Franc:	2½-2	2¼-1⅞	2¼-1⅞	2¼-1⅞	2½-1½
Yen:	½-¼	½-¼	½-¼	½-¼	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $295.50-295.90 Close: $296.70-297.20 High: $297.20-297.70 Low $293.60-294.10 AM: $295.75 PM: $296.30

Krugerrand: $298.00-300.00 (£178.00-180.00)

Platinum: $357.25 (£214.55) Silver: $5.365 (£3.215) Palladium: $297.00 (£178.40)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for June 30	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.3922-3.3992	3.3922-3.3959	1¼-1⅛pr	3⅜-3¼pr
Brussels	62.032-62.220	62.032-62.136	24-19pr	66-59pr
Copenhagen	11.462-11.486	11.462-11.486	⅜-¼pr	1½-1pr
Dublin	1.1934-1.1991	1.1949-1.1974	16-10pr	50-40pr
Frankfurt	3.0099-3.0154	3.0099-3.0134	1⅛-1pr	3⅜-3¼pr
Lisbon	308.02-308.67	308.02-308.38	¼-⅛pr	2¼-2⅛pr
Madrid	255.32-255.98	255.33-255.54	77-66pr	222-203pr
Milan	2964.2-2967.4	2964.2-2967.4	73-56pr	210-187pr
Montreal	2.4467-2.4647	2.4521-2.4551	0.62-0.58pr	1.22-1.15pr
New York	1.6650-1.6690	1.6680-1.6690	0.293-0.272pr	0.87-0.84pr
Oslo	12.770-12.815	12.791-12.815	¼-⅛pr	½-¼pr
Paris	10.083-10.107	10.083-10.092	¼-⅛pr	1⅛-1pr
Stockholm	13.265-13.335	13.293-13.318	¼-⅛pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Tokyo	231.27-233.32	231.45-231.67	1½-1¼pr	4½-4¼pr
Vienna	21.175-21.217	21.175-21.201	¼-⅛pr	2¼-2pr
Zurich	2.5292-2.5434	2.5292-2.5324	1⅛-1pr	3⅜-3⅛pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.6168-1.6181
Austria	12.71-12.72
Belgium (Com)	37.26-37.30
Canada	1.4676-1.4681
Denmark	6.8795-6.8895
France	6.0582-6.0592
Germany	1.8072-1.8077
Hong Kong	7.7484-7.7494
Ireland	1.3922-1.3942
Italy	1780.25-1781.25
Japan	138.88-138.98
Malaysia	4.1220-4.1725
Netherlands	2.0372-2.0382
Norway	7.6760-7.6860
Portugal	184.96-185.06
Singapore	1.6915-1.6925
Spain	153.67-153.71
Sweden	7.9869-7.9946
Switzerland	1.5177-1.5187

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6671-1.6696
Australia dollar	2.6956-2.6994
Bahrain dinar	0.6200-0.6360
Brazil real*	1.9231-1.9258
China yuan	13.654-13.959
Cyprus pound	0.8685-0.8895
Finland markka	9.0800-9.2240
Greece drachma	502.00-513.40
Hong Kong dollar	12.9181-12.9275
India rupee	69.85-71.65
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5045-0.5175
Malaysia ringgit	6.8706-6.9589
New Zealand dollar	3.2140-3.2203
Pakistan rupee	75.45 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9975-6.1315
Singapore dollar	2.8194-2.8228
S Africa rand (com)	9.6640-9.8670
U A E dirham	6.0500-6.1870

*Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	867	Lloyds TSB	6,485
ASDA Gp	5,080	LucasVarity	7,019
Abbey Ntl	1,874	Marks Spr	4,202
Allied Dom	1,360	Nat Grid	3,857
Allnce & Leic	825	Nat Power	2,104
Amvescap	905	NatWst Bk	2,854
AB Foods	862	Norwich Un	4,665
Bk of Scot	1,776	Nycmd Amr	2,539
BAA	1,493	Orange	633
Barclays	2,356	P & O	1,357
Bass	1,944	Pearson	750
BAT Inds	7,137	PowerGen	1,324
BG	6,183	Prudential	3,848
Billiton	3,345	Railtrack	1,426
Blue Circle	1,693	Rank Group	6,723
BOC	2,010	Reckitt Col	2,291
Boots	1,402	Reed Intl	4,247
BAe	3,684	Rentokil	2,503
BA	2,587	Reuters	3,430
Brit Energy	10,305	Rio Tinto	1,361
Br Land	2,054	RMC	299
BP	8,790	Rolls Royce	5,630
Brit Steel	3,558	Royal Sun	12,074
BSkyB	1,469	Royal Bk Sct	1,506
BT	7,240	Safeway	7,867
BTR	15,760	Sainsbury	3,355
CGU	12,089	Schroders	218
Cable Wire	4,266	Scot & New	1,821
Cadbury	1,335	Scot Power	4,073
Carlton Cms	3,094	Svrn Trent	999
Centrica	8,168	Shell Trans	17,274
Compass Gp	1,904	Siebe	2,735
Diageo	3,264	Smiths Ind	844
EMI	2,471	SmKl Bch	10,121
Enterpr Oil	846	Stagecoach	458
Gen Elec	5,196	Std Chartd	2,394
GKN	1,040	Sun Life	250
Glaxo Well	5,093	Tesco	2,617
Granada	1,840	Thames W	2,326
GUS	2,337	Tomkins	1,791
GRE	1,329	Unilever	6,776
Hays	734	Utd News	1,479
ICI	2,652	Utd Utilities	1,713
Kingfisher	1,352	Vodafone	5,655
HSBC	2,331	WPP	1,741
Halifax	2,219	Whitbread	964
Ladbroke	3,672	Williams	1,368
Land Secs	1,751	Woolwich	1,780
LASMO	2,114	Zeneca	1,388
Legal & Gn	2,244		

WALL STREET

	Jun 30 close	Jun 29 close
AMP Inc	34¼	35¼
AMR Corp	83½	83¼
AT & T	57½	56¾
Abbott Labs	40¾	42¼
Advanced Micro	17¼	17½
Aetna Life	76¾	75¾
Ahmanson (HF)	71	71¼
Air Prod & Chem	40	38¾
AirTouch Comm	58¼	57¼
Albertson's	51¾	52¼
Alcan Aluminm	27¾	27¼
Allied Signal	44¾	43¾
Alum Co of Am	65¾	66¼
Amerada Hess	54¼	53¾
AEP	45¾	45¼
Amer Express	114	111¾
Amer Genl Corp	71¼	71
Amer Home Pr	51¾	51½
Amer Intl	146	143¾
Amer Online	106	104¼
Amer Stores	24¼	23¼
Amer Standard	44¾	42½
Ameritech	44½	44½
Amgen	65¾	65½
Amoco	41¾	42¼
Andrew Corp	18¼	18¼
Anheuser-Busch	47¼	47¼
Apple Computer	28¾	28¾
Archer Daniels	19¼	19¼
Armco	6¼	6¼
Armstrng Wrld	67½	68¼
Asarco	22½	22
Atl Richfield	78¼	78¾
Atmel Corp	13¾	14¼
Auto Data Pro	72¾	71½
Avery Dennison	53¼	52¾
Avon Products	77½	78¾
Baker Hughes	34¼	35
Baltim Gas & El	31¼	31¼
Banc One	55¾	56¼
BankAmerica	86¼	87¼
Bank of NY	60¾	62¾
Bankers Tr Crp	116¼	116¼
Bausch & Lomb	50¾	50¾
Baxter Intl	53¾	53¾
Bectn Dickinsn	77¾	78¼
Bell Atlantic	45¼	91¼
BellSouth	67¼	66¼
Best Foods	58¼	58¾
Black & Decker	61	59¾
Block (H&R)	42¾	42¼
Boeing	44¼	44¼
Boise Cascade	32¼	31¾
Boston Scien	71¾	71¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	114¾	118¼
Browning Ferris	34¼	35¼
Brunswick	24¼	24¼
Burlington Nthn	98¼	97¾
CMS Energy Corp	44	44¼
CSX	45¾	45¼
CBS Corp	31¾	32
Campbell Soup	53¾	53¼
Carolina Pwr	43¾	43¼
Case Corp	48¼	47¼
Caterpillar	52¼	52¼
Central & SW	26¾	27¼
Champion Intl	49¼	47¾
Chase Manhat	75½	75¼
Chevron Corp	83¼	82¼
Chrysler	56¾	57¼
Chubb Corp	80¾	82¼
Cigna Corp	69	71¼
Citicorp	149¼	151¾
Clorox	95¾	95
Coastal Corp	69¾	69¾
Coca Cola	85¼	86
Coca Cola Ent	39¼	39¼
Colgate-Palm	88	89
Columbia Energy	55¼	55¼
Columbia/HCA	29¼	29¼
Compaq Comp	28¼	29¼
Comp Ass Intl	55¾	57¼
Conagra	31¾	32
Cons Edison	46¼	45¼
Cons Nat Gas	58¼	58¼
Cooper Inds	54¾	56¼
Corning Inc	34¼	34¼
C'wide Credit	50¼	52
Crestar Finl	54¼	54¼
Crown Cork	47¼	47¼
Daimler Bz ADR	97¼	98¼
Dana Corp	53¼	53¼
Dayton Hudson	48¼	49¼
Deere	52¼	52¼
Dell Computer	92¾	94¼
Delta Air Lines	129¼	128¼
Deluxe Corp	35¾	35¼
Dillard Dept St	41¼	41¾
Disney (Walt)	105¼	113¼
Dominion Res	40¾	41
Donelley (RR)	45¼	45¾
Dover Corp	34¼	34¼
Dow Chemical	96¾	96¼
Dow Jones	55¾	55¼
Dresser	44¼	42¾
Duke Energy	59¼	59¼
Dun & Brdstreet	36	35¾
Du Pont	74¼	74¼
Eastman Chem	62¼	62
Eastman Kodak	73¼	70¾

	Jun 30 close	Jun 29 close
Eaton Corp	77¼	77¾
Edison Intl	29¾	30¼
Elect Data Sys	40	39¼
Emerson Elec	60¾	60¼
Engelhard Corp	20¼	20¾
Enron Corp	54¼	52¾
Entergy	28¼	28½
Ethyl Corp	6¾	6¼
Exxon	71¼	71¾
FDX Holding	62¼	62¼
FMC Corp	68¼	68¾
FPL Group	63	62¾
Fifth Third Banc	63	60¾
Fleet Finl Grp	83½	83¼
Fluor Corp	51	50
Ford Motor	59	58¾
Fort James	44½	43¾
Fortune Brands	38¼	38¼
Franklin Res	54	53¾
GTE Corp	55¾	56
Gannett	71¼	70
Gap Inc Del	61¾	62¼
Gateway 2000	50¾	49¼
Gen Dynamics	46½	45¾
Gen Electric	91	90¾
Gen Mills	68¼	68¼
Gen Motors	66¾	68¼
Gen Reinsurance	253½	258¼
Gen Signal	36	36¼
Genuine Parts	34¼	34¼
Georgia Pac	58¾	57¼
Gillette	56¾	57¼
Glaxo Welc ADR	59¾	61½
Goodrich (BF)	49¼	48¼
Goodyear Tire	64¼	64¼
Great Lakes	39¼	38¼
Halliburton	44¼	43¾
Harcourt General	59¼	60
Heinz (HJ)	56¼	56¼
Hercules	41½	40¾
Hershey Foods	69	71¼
Hewlett Packard	59¼	61¾
Hilton Hotels	28½	31¼
Home Depot	83¼	84¼
Homestake Mng	10¼	10
Honeywell	83¼	83¾
Household Intl	49¼	51¼
Houston Inds	30¼	30¼
Humana	31¼	31¾
Ikon Office	14¼	15¼
Illinois Tool	66¾	65¾
Illinova	30	30¼
INCO	13¾	13¼
Ingersoll Rand	44¼	41¼
Inland Steel	26¼	28¼
Intel Corp	74¼	75¾
IBM	114¾	114½
Intl Flav & Fr	43¼	43¾
Intl Paper	43	42½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	73¼	76¼
Kellogg	37¼	38¼
Kerr-McGee	57¼	57¼
Kimberly-Clark	45¼	44¼
Kmart	19¼	19¾
Knight-Ridder	55¼	55¾
Lilly (Eli)	66¼	67¼
Limited Inc	33¼	33¾
Lincoln Nat	91¼	91¼
Litton	59	59¼
Liz Claiborne	52¼	52¼
Lockheed Martin	105¼	103
Louisiana Pac	18¼	18¼
Lucent Tech	83¼	82¼
MCI Comm	58¾	57
Manpower Inc	28¾	29¼
Marketspan Cp	29¾	30¼
Marriott Int A	31¼	31¼
Marsh & McLnn	60¼	59¼
Masco Corp	60½	59¼
May Dept St	65½	66¾
Maytag Corp	49¼	49¾
McDonalds	69	69¼
McGraw Hill	81¾	81¼
Mead Corp	31¼	31¼
MediaOne Group	43¾	44
Meditrust Corp	27¼	28¾
Medtronic	63¾	63¼
Mellon Bk	69¼	70¼
Merck Inc	133¼	132¼
Merrill Lynch	92¼	93¼
Microsoft	108¼	105¾
Minnesota Mine	82¼	83¼
Mirage Resorts	21¼	21¼
Mobil Corp	76¼	77½
Monsanto	55¼	56½
Morgan (JP)	117¼	118¾
Motorola Inc	52¾	53¼
Mylan Labs	30¼	31¾
Natl Semi	13¼	13¾
Natl Service Ind	50¾	51¾
Navistar Int	28¼	28½
NY Times A	77¼	77¾
Newmont Mng	23¼	22¼
Nike B	48¾	49¼
NL Industries	20	20¼
Nordstrom	77¼	76¾
Norfolk Sthrn	29¾	29¾
Nthn State Pwr	29¼	28¼
Norwest Corp	37¼	37¼
Occidental Pet	27	26¼

	Jun 30 close	Jun 29 close
Office Depot	31¾	32¼
Oracle	24¼	24½
Oryx Energy Co	22¾	22¼
Owens Corning	40¾	39¼
PPG Industries	69¼	67
PMI Group	73¼	72¼
PNC Bank	53¾	55¼
PP&L Res	22¾	23
Paccar Inc	52¼	51¾
Pacificorp	22¾	22¼
PaineWebber	43	43¼
Pall Corp	20½	20¼
Parker Hannifin	38¼	37¼
Peco Energy	29¼	29
Penney (JC)	72¼	73¼
Pennzoil	50¾	50¼
Pepsico	41¼	41¼
Pfizer	108¾	109¾
Pharm & Upjhn	46¼	46¼
Phelps Dodge	57¼	56¾
Philip Morris	39¼	39¼
Phillips Pet	48¼	48¼
Pitney Bowes	48¼	49¼
Polaroid	35¼	36¼
Procter & Gmbl	91¼	92¼
Providian	78¼	76¼
Pub Serv E & G	34¼	34¼
Quaker Oats	54¾	55
Ralston Purina	116¾	115¼
Raychem Corp	29¼	30¾
Raytheon B	59¼	56¼
Reebok Intl	27¾	27¼
Reliastar Fin	48	47¼
Reynolds Metals	55¾	55¼
Rockwell Intl	48¼	49
Rohm & Haas	103¾	101¼
Royal Dutch	54¾	55¼
Rubbermaid	33¼	32¾
SBC Comms	40	39¾
Safeco Corp	45¼	46¼
St Paul's Cos	42¼	41¾
Sara Lee Corp	55¾	56¼
Schering Plough	91¼	93¼
Schlumberger	68¼	68¼
Seagram	40¾	40¼
Sears Roebuck	61¼	62¾
Shell Trans	42¼	42¼
Sherwin Wllms	33¾	32½
Silicon Graphics	12¼	12¼
Snap-On-Tools	36¼	34¾
Southern Co	27¾	27¼
Southtrust	43½	42¾
Sprint Corp	70½	72¼
Stanley Works	41¼	41½
Starwood H & F	48¼	47
Sun Company	38¾	38¼
Sun Microsys	43¼	44½
Suntrust	81¼	82½
Supervalu	44¾	44¼
Synovus Fin	23¼	23½
Sysco Corp	25¼	25¼
TRW Inc	54¼	55¼
TIG Hldgs	23	23
Tandy Corp	53¼	52¼
Temple Inland	53¼	52¼
Tenet Healthcare	31¼	32½
Tenneco	36¼	37¼
Texaco	59¾	60¼
Texas Inst	58¼	59¼
Texas Utilities	41¼	41¼
Textron	71¾	72¼
Thermo Elect	34¼	34¼
Time Warner	85	85¼
Times-Mirror A	62¼	63¾
Timken	30¾	31¼
Torchmark	45¼	44¾
Toys R Us	23¼	24¼
Transamerica	115¾	116¼
Travelers	60¾	61¼
Tribune	68¾	68
UST Inc	27	27¼
US Bancorp	43	45¼
UAL	78	79¼
Unum	69½	69¼
US Inds	24¼	25¼
US West	47¾	47¾
USAirways Group	79¼	79¼
USX Marathon	34¼	34¼
Unicom	35¼	35¼
Unilever NV	78¾	79¼
Union Camp	49¼	49¼
Union Carbide	53¾	51¼
Union Pacific	44¾	44¼
Unisys Corp	28¼	27¾
United Tech	92¼	91¼
Unocal Corp	35¾	36¼
VF Corp	51¾	50¼
Venator Group	19¼	19¼
Wal-Mart Stores	60¾	62¼
Warner-Lambert	69¼	69¼
Waste Mngmt	35	34¼
Wells Fargo	369	365¾
Weyerhaeuser	46¼	45¼
Whirlpool	68¼	66¼
Whitman	22¾	22¼
Winn Dixie	51¼	49¼
Witco Corp	29¾	29¼
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	98	101¼
Xerox	101¼	101¾
Xilinx Inc	34	35¼

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E-day in Euroland set fair for equities

If you are an equity investor wanting a profitable place to put your money, where in the world should you look?

Asia is clearly out. Just look at the figures: Hong Kong real estate retail sales falling at a 35 per cent annual rate; South Korean industrial production down by more than 20 per cent in six months; Singapore's retail sales cut by about 40 per cent in three months. As one analyst put it, bargain-hunting in these economies would be like trying to catch a falling knife and, because of psychological and banking contagion, other emerging markets look just as potentially lacerating.

The British stock market may still have some mileage in it as the economy takes time to slow down and noting that it is not as obviously richly valued as Wall Street. Nevertheless, corporate profits are beginning to erode, the economy is dreadfully imbalanced and, in view of looser fiscal policy, perceptions are now that interest rates will rise further. Investing in UK plc seems rather risky given that the "R" word is now openly discussed.

Views of America are more contentious. A large camp argues that Asia will, if anything, prolong Wall Street's bull run because the output effect from the Far East will not be as substantial as a useful deflationary impact. Elaine Garzarelli, one of Wall Street's best-known gurus, reckons that, despite flattish corporate earnings, the Dow Jones Industrial Average should climb to 9,700 or so within six to 12 months.

However, given the unfolding severity of the Asian crisis, and the substantial dent it is now making in American exports and corporate profits, Wall Street is by no means a safe bet. Again, look at the figures: Texas Instruments cuts 3,500 jobs; Motorola slashes 15,000 jobs, largely because of slumping Asian demand. Farmers have lost up to $2 billion (£1.2 billion) of sales this year because of weak exports to Asia.

So where else is there? The obvious, if irritating answer for British Eurosceptics who wish the single currency project ill, is Europe, or Euroland as the 11 who will form monetary union in January have come to be called.

There are many reasons why Europe may turn out to the best investment around, admittedly in a less than prepossessing world environment. Europe is at an earlier stage in its economic cycle than Britain and America. Because it has no overheating problem, it can justify low interest rates, even before the disinflationary effects of the Asian crisis are taken into account.

In addition, rates should converge on the low levels prevailing



JANET BUSH

in France and Germany, which have low inflation, rather than the higher rates that are probably needed in smaller economies with higher inflation. If there is any doubt about the strength of the European recovery, it is in Germany and, such is the continuing dominance of German domestic interests in Europe, rates will converge downwards.

Another reason why Euroland equity markets may be a good bet is the wave of corporate restructuring that the arrival of monetary union is prompting. Mergers and takeovers may be bad for employment in the short term but they are probably good news for corporate bottom lines.

Many of the cannier international investors have already bought into this story. The latest Merrill Lynch Gallup poll of fund managers found that the euro is now the asset class of choice for a thumping majority of managers. However, many more investors have not yet realised Europe's potential. Japanese investors continue to be fixated on the US Treasury market and Wall Street in their flight to quality. American investors still harbour grave doubt about the euro project and have been less than impressed with the economic sado-masochism that Europe has endured courtesy of Maastricht.

Chuck Clough of Merrill Lynch notes that American investors last looked at Europe in 1989 and 1990 in the wake of the fall of the Berlin Wall. After that, a large chunk of US funds was attracted to emerging markets. The legacy of that buying spree in 1993 and 1994 is that there are more Asian mutual funds than there are European ones. That, Mr Clough contends, is about to change.

Of all these reasons to be cheerful about European markets, the most important is a change in perception about monetary policy. One of the strongest arguments against the euro has been the understandable suspicion that the European Central Bank cannot afford to look less tough than the Bundesbank and that Euroland will have a deflationary bias. That, however, is not how it looks as E-day approaches. The background to the launch of the euro looks positively promising.

Anglo-Saxons will remain sceptical that Europe, with all its inflexibilities and social featherbedding, can truly compete. There is some truth to this critique but also compelling evidence to suggest that Europe's growth underperformance has had far less to do with supply-side failings than with a shortage of demand.

Much of that can be put down to the Bundesbank, which reacted in a restrictive manner to successive oil shocks, deflated Europe after German reunification and orchestrated Europe's squeeze as it struggled to meet the Maastricht treaty criteria.

The whole point about EMU is that formal dominance of European policy by the Bundesbank is ended. As the Asian crisis deepens, we must all hope that central bankers from Paris, Rome and Madrid outvote any return to old habits by Frankfurt.

The Maxwell connection . . .

Chris Ayres explores the links between the Paymaster General and the Maxwell pension scandal

Ten years ago last month, two small engineering companies, one based in the West Country and the other in Wales, were bought from Robert Maxwell as part of a slick £115 million management buyout deal.

Within only three years, the buyout company, Hollis Industries, which had been chaired by Geoffrey Robinson, now the Paymaster General, had been criticised for failing to keep proper accounts. It was on the verge of collapse; Maxwell had disappeared from his yacht in the Atlantic and, worst of all, the two engineering firms found that millions of pounds were missing from their pension funds.

It is easy to understand why Mr Robinson — who played a key part in the buyout deal — is reluctant to talk about it now. Critics claim Mr Robinson's reluctance to spell out his relationships with Maxwell may explain his failure to declare a raft of directorships of Maxwell-linked companies in the Register of Members' Interests, omissions which are now under investigation by Parliament's Standards and Privileges Committee. The committee will deliver its verdict early next week. Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, said: "From the point of view of the House of Commons, the rules requiring the disclosure of business interests are all about letting people know what's going on. There was nothing registered by Mr Robinson which gave any idea of this kind of relationship with Mr Maxwell. Yet it is perfectly clear from events that transpired that his business involvement with Maxwell was intimate."

> 'At the end of the day, what those concerned suffered was five years of distress'

Mr Robinson, however, maintains that he had little involvement in the business affairs of the disgraced publishing tycoon, and that he was not paid for any of his undisclosed directorships. Yet company accounts appear to suggest the opposite.

Mr Robinson started his long and complex business relationship with Maxwell in the late 1980s, after the tycoon's Hollis Group lost a bidding battle for AE, a motor components business. On April 22, 1988, Mr Robinson — who several years earlier had founded his own specialist engineering company, Transfer Technology — joined the board of Hollis Group alongside Maxwell.

The position was not disclosed in the Register of Members' Interests, even though the company's accounts of two years later showed a significant payment to Mr Robinson of £200,000. The minister claims that the accounts were inaccurate, and that the money was never paid to him.

Only a month after joining the Hollis Group board, Mr Robinson pulled off an apparently audacious deal with Maxwell. It began when the portly tycoon stunned the City by declaring that his long-term ambition to create an engineering empire was over. Having spent several years making frenzied acquisitions in the sector, the media magnate said his failure to win the bidding battle for AE had been a "watershed".

On May 23 Maxwell said he would sell all the engineering businesses of Hollis Group to a management buyout team led by Mr Robinson and Colin Robinson (no relation) — both experienced managers in the engineering sector. The buyout company would be called Hollis Industries. Hollis Group changed its name to Pergamon Professional & Financial Services and took a stake in the new Hollis. Mr Robinson went on the board of Pergamon but did not declare that to Parliament, nor his chairmanship of Hollis.

Two of the companies bought from Mr Maxwell by the Robinson duo were Stothert & Pitt, a well-known crane manufacturer and FloForm, a maker of sparkplugs. But although the two companies changed hands, their pension funds remained under the control of the Maxwell empire. This was to have a devastating effect on employees of the two firms.

Remarkably little attention was given to the deal at the time, although *The Sunday Times* described it as being "one of the largest and fastest buyouts seen in Britain". The article went on to say: "With exciting new products nearly ready for market, the Robinson team is worth watching."

It certainly was. The buyout was a spectacular disaster, with the two Robinsons failing to turn around the portfolio of troubled companies bought from Maxwell for a generous £115 million.

By February 9, 1989 — only nine months after Mr Robinson's buyout — Maxwell was forced to pump £40 million back into the buyout company to shore up the value of his stake.

The troubles of Hollis Industries affected all its divisions, and in January 1989 the company said it would break up Stothert & Pitt, causing an uproar in Bath, where the historic firm was based. In November of the same year FloForm was sold to James Wilkes Group for £15 million.

The chairman of Wilkes was then Stephen Hinchliffe — one of the City's more colourful characters, he is currently the subject of a Serious Fraud Office investigation into the 1996 collapse of Facia, the failed retail venture. FloForm had a new owner but the move was still not accompanied by the funds that the Maxwell group owed to its pension fund.



Robinson: the Paymaster General held directorships on Maxwell-linked companies



Maxwell: disgraced tycoon

Matters became even more hopelessly tangled afterwards, with Maxwell taking Pergamon AGB private, and using his mysterious Maxwell Foundation — a trust based in Liechtenstein — to buy back Hollis Industries, still chaired by Geoffrey Robinson, on January 23, 1990. Two months later, on March 2, Mr Robinson resigned as a director of Pergamon AGB.

While one chapter of Mr Robinson's involvement with Maxwell was ending, another was beginning. At about the same time as the £115 million buyout of Hollis Industries, Mr Robinson had quietly taken up another Maxwell directorship, this time of a troubled mini-conglomerate called Central & Sheerwood. Like all his other positions linked to the publishing tycoon, he did not disclose it to Parliament.

Somehow, Mr Robinson managed to survive 1990 with his business credibility intact — even after a damning criticism by Coopers & Lybrand of Hollis Industries' failure to keep proper accounts. And on May 20, 1990, Mr Robinson pulled off the deal that was to make him a multimillionaire.

With Maxwell's help, the Coventry MP used Transfer Technology to stage a £5.15 million reverse takeover of Central & Sheerwood. The merged company changed its name to TransTec, and Mr Robinson realised his ambition of bringing his company to the stock market.

However, some Central & Sheerwood shareholders were outraged by the deal, which gave both Mr Robinson and Maxwell discount stakes in the new business. One shareholder declared it "a bloody carve-up".

Only six months later, the man who had helped shape Mr Robinson's career and create his wealth — Robert Maxwell — was reported missing from his yacht in the Atlantic Ocean. Three weeks before his disappearance, he had severed his business contacts with Mr Robinson by selling his 28 per cent stake in TransTec.

After his death it rapidly became apparent that Maxwell had systematically robbed company pension funds of more than £450 million. The scandal led to protracted litigation as pensioners fearing a future of poverty tried to have their funds replenished.

Among the funds that had to fight for justice were those of two of the businesses which had been shuffled between Maxwell and Mr Robinson's companies — Stothert & Pitt and FloForm. They were owed an estimated £2 million to £3 million in transfer payments. Up to 1,200 staff and former employees of the two companies were affected.

Ralph Whiting, the solicitor for the two companies' employees — who reached a settlement with those sorting out the Maxwell legacy only last year — said: "When Maxwell died, a lot of money had not been paid, in fact there has never been a reliable estimate of how much. At the end of the day, what those concerned suffered was five years of distress."

The loss of pension funds from the two businesses bought by Mr Robinson may raise questions about how much he knew about Maxwell's dealings.

And as the committee for parliamentary standards prepares to rule on the Paymaster General's behaviour, perhaps its members should ponder whether former Maxwell cohorts make good government ministers.

Shell looks to oil the wheels of its business with new image

How much goodwill can you buy for $30 million?

Shell has set aside the princely sum in an attempt to improve its image around the world. Helping the oil company to spin its message to governments, journalists, the green lobby and anyone else who cares to listen will be Fishburn Hedges, the PR firm.

In addition, J Walter Thomson, the ad agency, has been charged with telling Shell whether advertising should play a role in portraying it as a good corporate citizen.

The oil company has not committed itself but, of course, JWT will conclude that, yes, ads are a good idea. We can expect big, splashy ones with aerial shots of rigs in storm-tossed seas. Tough but smiling oilmen (include one woman) in hardhats keep watch on deck as the camera switches to the comforting glow of a gas fire in your living room.

You can buy a lot of television commercials for $30 million (£18 million). Prime-time space is worth about £60,000 for 30 seconds and even the most ambitious lobbyist would blanch at spending such sums on corporate entertaining. As one oil industry PR remarked: "I could take half a million people to lunch for that."

Shell explains the move as its desire to become more transparent. The company's image was badly tarnished by the Nigeria protests and the row over Brent Spar. A resolution promoted by church groups at last year's annual meeting calling for more accountability also ruffled feathers in the boardroom. A Shell spokesman said: "There is a perception gap between how people see Shell and our objectives as a company. We have asked Fishburn Hedges to help us to close that gap."

Shell has been beating its breast very hard recently, even to the extent of revealing that a small number of staff had been sacked for accepting bribes. Such openness is commendable, imaginative and highly unusual for a multinational company. Of late, Shell's main offence in the communication department has been verbosity.

In that context, the decision to hire professional spin doctors looks regressive and the budget portly. Thirty million dollars is a lot of cosmetics and, despite its commitment to openness, the company was remarkably coy on how it would be spent. Likewise the hired helps at Fishburn Hedges were uncharacteristically silent on their mission.

Television viewers will recall a spate of corporate ads in the late 1980s, notably the Hanson "A company from over here doing rather well over there" campaign. In the more caring 1990s, such grandstanding looks out of place.

Shell will doubtless fill our screens with sensitive images of rainforests and wildlife. Nevertheless, one cannot help feeling that if Shell has $30 million to burn, a community project somewhere might welcome a donation.

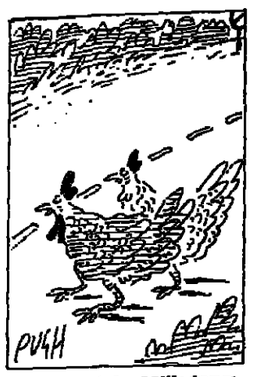
CARL MORTISHED

Late lunch

THE Extel thrash at Guildhall, where the teenage scribblers learn what the fund managers really think of them, seems to get longer every year. Last time it was mercifully foreshortened by the Budget: yesterday the first of the research teams did not learn of their fate until almost 2.30pm.

Many thanks to John Brennan, chairman of Vanguard, the US fund manager, for an after-lunch speech that microphones and the speed of his speech combined to make largely incomprehensible. I passed my lunch among one of the two contenders fighting it out for top place; a colleague was with the other. It wasn't hard to tell, in advance, which of them had won.

But one thought occurred, apart from the fact that by the year 2004 all but two or three City firms need not bother to turn up at all. Of the top ten winners, no fewer than six had changed their names since the last survey a year ago. And one more, SBC Warburg Dillon etc. changed its name again, virtually during the ceremony. The SBC bit was dropped yesterday.



"Why did the Hillsdown poultry chief quit?"

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Sex sells

JANET INGLIS, director of information services at ABN Amro Hoare Govett, has published her third novel and, yup, it's another mucky one. "He was beside her, he was on top of her, they were ..." Enough of that. Inglis's last two were on the steamy side, and *The Colour of Sin* is described as "a powerful story of sexual obsession".

I ring to ask her whether, if the plot really demanded it, she might one day leave out the X-rated stuff. She turns out to be an impossibly fast-talking Canadian. "There are some risky bits — you shouldn't go looking for them," she gabbles.

But there is surely a *leitmotiv* emerging in her fiction? "A what?" It's a literary term. "I would say they are about parents and children." We discuss the erosion of moral absolutes and the tendency to live for instant gratification at the expense of family relationships, a theme which she says is at the heart of her work. And the next book? "It's about families and about sex."

● *THE possible ousting of Chris Akers from Leeds United would be a mere hitch in a glittering career. Akers, 33, emerged from Watford College, no less, with a marketing qualification to go to Saatchi & Saatchi and then the City.*

After Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, RIP, and Swiss Bank Corporation, ditto, he bought Leeds United. Even then there was a hint that he might not be too popular with the fans. Asked which team he supported, Akers replied Boca Juniors — an Argentinian club.

Dog-eared

THE Virgin publicity machine has slipped a cog. When Richard Branson launched his first index tracking fund last year, there was the inevitable picture of Branson and a bloodhound — as in tracker dog. Very droll, but as it happens not terribly original.

Tony Fraher, now chief executive of Singer & Friedlander Investment Funds, launched Morgan Grenfell's first tracker fund ten years ago. He has been putting it about that he was first with the bloodhound theme, too. Now the evidence reaches me, from the 1988 Money Show at Olympia. Fraher is on the right.

MARTIN WALLER



Fraher: never act with children or animals

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7666				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	139.63	149.02	- 0.11	..
Do NAV to Jun 19	137.71	137.71	..	..
UK Equity Safeguard	111.30	119.02†	+ 0.25	3.02
Do NAV to Jun 19	108.05	108.05	..	..
US Eqy Safeguard	94.14	99.92	..	..
Cash	936.97	961.75	..	5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	422.10	448.40	- 1.60	1.43
UK Small Cos	98.84	105.81	- 0.34	0.50
FTSE 250 Index	114.04	121.95	+ 0.14	1.88
Second UK Index	2648.87	2784.47	-33.00	5.75
Income Funds				
Cap Bd	85.26	88.67	- 0.03	6.08
Monthly Inc	44.96	47.83†	+ 0.08	7.86
International Funds				
American Gen	340.50	361.00	+ 3.10	..
American Shel	257.36	353.85	- 2.65	..
JS US Index	2611.16	2751.20	..	4.00
European Gen	439.90	466.10	+ 4.00	0.08
European Shel	184.19	196.98	+ 1.06	..
Japan Gen	94.98	100.70	+ 3.47	..
Asia Pacific	53.06	56.81	+ 0.79	1.09
Pacific Shel	89.93	96.54	+ 0.68	..
Greater China	140.46	150.24	+ 1.00	..
Latin America	63.93	69.55	+ 1.05	..
Ins Growth	186.67	199.32	+ 1.57	0.11
Balanced Managd	173.66	185.30	..	1.70
Global Strategy	47.16	50.45	+ 0.15	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01293 553 231				
General Acc	953.80	1014.00	- 3.00	2.09
General Inc	773.60	822.40	- 2.70	2.09
UK Growth Acc	654.60	696.30	- 2.20	2.04
UK Growth Inc	411.10	437.30	- 1.50	2.04
Higher Inc Acc #	1,344.00	1,323.00	- 5.00	4.20
Higher Inc Inc #	630.00	670.20	- 1.70	4.20
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	242.20	255.60	- 0.20	5.71
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	98.42	103.80	- 0.10	5.71
Nth America	490.10	521.30	- 3.50	..
Pacific	399.70	424.10	+ 2.80	0.45
Int & Gth Inc	117.80	124.90	- 0.56	2.39
UK Smaller Cos	136.30	144.57	+ 0.09	1.65
Pacific Gth Pen	28.31	30.12	+ 0.49	1.01
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	146.80	155.60†	- 0.30	5.74
High Inc Equity	251.50	267.70†	+ 2.40	3.87
Amalgamated Bldng	274.00	290.50†	+ 0.30	3.61
Amersham Group	563.40	597.40†	+ 2.80	0.45
Asian Pacific	172.00	183.00	+ 4.70	0.58
Assets & Earnings	388.90	425.90†	+ 3.30	2.40
Euro Capital Acc	311.80	331.70	+ 2.10	0.22
Extra Inc	43.66	46.81†	+ 0.11	6.12
General	356.50	378.20†	+ 0.40	0.08
Global Opps	81.30	86.49	+ 0.35	0.37
Japan	74.67	79.44	+ 2.69	..
Managed Inc	56.15	59.74†	+ 0.13	4.27
Mastermart	103.30	110.30	+ 0.80	1.11
US Emerging Cos	252.70	268.80	+ 5.30	..
Ethical	105.10	111.80†	- 0.10	1.64
International	158.00	168.10	+ 1.60	0.58
Dividend & Growth	92.21	98.10†	+ 0.11	3.58
Global Growth & Inc	93.91	99.90†	+ 0.27	3.89
Asia Pacific	53.28	56.67	+ 0.79	1.09
Greater China	140.46	150.24	+ 1.00	..
Capital Reserve	155.90	156.90	- 0.30	4.46
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
M&P UK Growth	128.60	136.80	- 0.50	1.49
Equity Income #	177.30	188.60	- 0.60	3.43
Extra Income #	332.70	353.20	- 0.80	4.42
Tmatlas Cos	108.90	115.80	- 0.40	1.70
International	148.30	157.70†	+ 0.30	0.92
ABERDEEN PROUDC UT MGRS LTD				
Enq: 01345 089 666 Dlg: 01224 633 580				
Amer Opp Acc	392.60	417.27	+ 2.42	..
Emg Mkts Inc	49.99	52.89	+ 1.16	0.53
Ethical Inc	94.69	99.56†	- 0.33	0.38
Euro Gwth Acc	146.00	156.19	+ 0.52	..
Euro Super Opps Acc	155.50	165.70	+ 0.70	..
Extra Inc Inc	297.10	250.89†	- 0.66	3.62
Extra Inc Acc	328.83	347.96	- 0.95	3.62
FE Emg Econ	63.61	67.30	+ 1.08	1.00
Fixed Int Inc #	30.68	32.21	- 0.04	7.45
Frontier Mkts	27.43	29.03	- 0.49	0.42
Fund Of Inv Inc #	255.94	269.38	- 0.43	3.35
Fund Of Inv Acc	487.33	515.66	- 0.93	3.35
Gth Inc Inc #	50.41	52.54†	- 0.08	6.64
Global Bond Inc	40.50	42.74	+ 0.14	4.83
Global Inc Inc	35.03	36.88	+ 0.14	6.79
Global Inc Acc	53.84	56.68	+ 0.16	3.25
High Inc Inc	176.77	187.05	- 0.47	3.73
High Inc Acc	238.41	252.28	- 0.63	3.73
Japan Inc	137.97	145.29	+ 4.06	..
Latin Amer Inc	56.38	59.65	+ 0.91	1.06
Master Inc Inc	64.16	72.12	+ 0.21	2.24
Master Gwth Inc	82.94	86.59	- 0.72	0.33
North Amer Inc	298.05	300.55†	+ 1.19	..
North Amer Acc	285.36	300.91	+ 1.19	..
Pacific Inc	48.10	50.89	- 0.14	0.25
Prop Share Inc	100.89	106.75	- 0.41	1.19
Special Sit Inc	194.68	206.21†	- 1.49	0.73
Special Sit Acc	222.02	234.94	+ 1.70	0.73
Tech Inc	907.56	956.07†	+12.75	..
Tech Acc	907.56	956.07	+12.75	..
UK Blue Chip Inc	127.58	134.64	- 0.35	2.28
Uk Blue Chip Acc	152.58	162.06	- 0.42	2.28
UK Emg Co Inc	92.38	99.86	- 0.64	0.90
UK Gwth Inc	79.12	83.71	- 0.19	0.91
World Port Inc #	99.07	104.59†	+ 0.47	1.61
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 298 0733				
UK Small Cos	2803.00	2920.20	..	..
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5888				
Ansvtt Property #	109.60	116.50	..	5.50
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	115.64	122.66	- 0.08	1.74
Income Builder Inc	108.95	115.49†	+ 0.05	2.81
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 525 911				
Cranrdd Out Pens	155.00	161.00	..	..
Founders Pens Pens	89.79	93.38	+ 0.78	..
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4842				
American Sel Cos	485.00	521.70	+ 6.70	..
Bond	125.40	131.70	- 0.25	6.31
Brit Smlr Cos	121.70	129.50	- 0.30	1
Europe	457.30	485.00	+ 1.30	..
Euro Smlr Cos	146.10	155.40	+ 0.50	..
High Income #	76.53	81.41†	- 0.08	4.90
Income	469.60	499.60†	+ 2.55	3.41
Japan	257.70	272.50	+ 7.60	..
Latin American	88.36	95.09†	+ 0.57	..
Pacific	58.91	62.67	+ 0.13	1.19
UK Smlr Cos	72.29	76.90	- 0.14	0.90
Japanese Sm Cos	427.60	439.40	+ 9.95	..
Mngd Fd	269.01	285.20	- 0.25	1.90
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 588 6873				
Brit & Overs	462.50	488.90	..	0.72
Capital Gwth	185.60	196.30	..	2.14
Whole Opps	258.80	273.60	..	0.80
BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD				
Customer Help Desk 0181 922 4000				
Income Funds				
Cash	100.00	100.00†	..	5.83
Cash Acc	135.10	135.10	..	5.83
Income #	790.70	843.50	- 0.10	3.51
Income Builder #	90.47	96.35	- 0.10	4.07
Balanced Funds				
Exempt	122.00	129.60	- 0.40	1.02
500	601.70	647.00	+ 1.10	1.36
General	462.40	495.70	+ 0.40	1.06
Property	278.10	298.40†	..	5.88
Trustee	321.90	344.90†	..	1.22
Growth Funds - UK				
Capital	206.50	221.30†	+ 0.10	1.14
FTSE 100	150.00	159.30†	- 0.50	1.37
Smaller Cos	88.58	74.23	- 0.19	1.64
Smaller Cos Acc	83.82	89.40	- 0.23	1.64
Growth Funds - Overseas				
America	273.60	288.90†	+ 1.60	..
American Growth	184.20	195.00	+ 1.10	..
Japan	86.89	91.53	+ 3.03	..
Japan Acc	87.69	92.59	+ 3.09	..
Japan Spec Sits	40.04	42.97	+ 1.58	..
Worldwide	241.50	256.50	+ 1.40	0.56
Barclays Investment Portfolios				
Managed Income	50.17	51.90†	- 0.05	6.37
Mgd Gwth & Inc #	50.57	53.60	- 0.07	5
Managed Growth	52.97	56.44	+ 0.02	0.60
Barclays Global Investors Funds				
Bridgehse 0800 783 4567				
Income Funds				
Distribution #	140.10	140.60†	..	4.62
Equity Income #	191.10	203.80	- 0.20	3.56
Gilt & Fx Int	64.39	66.67†	- 0.05	6.72
Int Fxd Int Acc	102.70	106.10	+ 0.10	4.42
Int Fxd Int Acc	133.10	137.50	- 0.10	4.42
Growth Funds - UK				
UK Gwth	599.20	637.50	+ 0.40	1.08
UK Growth Acc	599.20	637.50	+ 0.40	1.08
Gwth & Inc	608.40	647.30	+ 0.30	1.16
Gwth & Inc Acc	1323.	1408.	+ 1.00	1.16
Gwth Funds - Overseas				
Euro Gwth	308.50	328.40	+ 0.90	0.47
Euro Gwth Acc	335.70	356.20	+ 0.90	0.47
Far Eastern Gwth	85.15	90.58†	..	1.19
Far East Gth Acc	145.50	155.20	..	1.19
Customer Service Centre 0800 626252				
b2 Str Mkt Gin	99.61	100.30	- 0.50	..
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	221.30	233.50	+ 2.50	..
Amer Smlr Cos	172.80	182.80	+ 3.00	..
Eastern	121.60	131.70	- 0.80	0.30
Emerg Income #	134.10	142.80	- 0.40	3.60
European Growth	668.90	710.80	+ 2.90	0.40
Europe	552.60	590.90†	+ 2.60	0.50
German Growth	174.40	184.80	- 0.60	0.50
Global Bond	76.12	80.08	- 0.09	5.10
Global Growth	218.60	231.80	+ 1.20	0.10
Japan Growth	111.10	117.80	+ 2.80	0.45
Japan Special	76.42	80.85	+ 2.45	..
Korea Trust	21.56	23.45	+ 0.01	..
Portfolio	198.10	210.40	- 0.10	1.88
-do- Accum	384.60	408.70	- 0.20	1.88
UK Growth	153.00	164.00†	- 0.60	1.20
UK Smaller Cos	159.90	173.00	- 0.20	1.02
Select Managers	105.30	112.40	..	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 268 2000				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	112.60	119.60	+ 1.20	..
Special Opps Inc	49.97	52.73	- 0.01	..
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	211.81	219.81	+ 2.96	0.50
-do- Accum	250.47	260.84	+ 3.51	0.50
Smaller Cos	218.85	229.01	- 0.97	0.04
-do- Accum	250.01	268.43	- 1.11	0.04
Higher Yield #	79.19	82.49†	+ 0.32	3.24
-do- Accum #	132.37	137.78	+ 1.51	3.24
American Gth Inc	159.91	165.11	+ 1.42	..
European Growth	266.02	277.10	+ 0.48	..
-do- Accum	277.73	289.69	+ 0.50	..
Mngd Pfolio Inc	66.50	69.28	+ 0.37	1.30
-do- Accum	70.82	72.94	+ 0.28	1.30
Ex Cahier Opps	220.55	240.16	+ 1.51	..
Pacific Gth	82.69	86.14	+ 0.28	0.92
Uk Extensn #	-139.84	145.66†	+ 1.82	2.28
-do- Accum #	157.76	164.34	+ 2.05	2.28
Japan	37.45	39.01	+ 1.13	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	112.09	116.15†	- 0.11	6.95
BURRADE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7218				
Short Dated Gilt	64.52	65.34	- 0.08	6.40
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Equities	255.20	268.00†	- 0.60	1.21
UK Growth	307.80	323.20	- 1.00	1.24
UK Income	208.80	219.10	- 0.40	3.20

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	310.70	328.30	- 0.50	1.03
-do- Income Dist	174.60	185.30	- 0.20	2.66
-do- Accum	566.60	602.30	- 0.40	2.66
Gth & Fxd Int	44.88	47.16	- 0.09	4.61
Growth Units	373.80	398.90	- 1.50	1.45
Bond	194.40	204.50	- 0.30	5.53
Int Growth	258.30	274.70	+ 2.20	0.12
North American	382.40	406.60	+ 3.30	..
Pac East	137.90	147.50†	+ 2.50	1.44
UK Smaller Cos	311.40	333.10†	+ 0.80	0.87
European	144.00	153.30†	+ 0.70	0.42
Japanese Growth	20.74	22.18	+ 0.27	..
High Income	308.50	329.20	+ 0.20	2.60
Evergrowth Plus	257.25	268.43†	+ 1.36	0.09
Portfolio	105.92	112.68†	- 0.24	1.06
Uk Income Inc	128.33	137.58	- 0.29	3.43
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	333.70	355.00	+ 4.10	..
European Inc	161.60	171.70	+ 0.50	..
Smaller Cos (4-1)	130.00	138.30	- 0.60	1.47
Growth	784.10	834.50	- 2.10	1.40
Income & Growth #	642.10	683.30	- 0.70	3.05
-do- Accum #	1822.70	1098.00	- 1.20	3.05
Japan & Gen	44.60	47.33	+ 1.53	..
Hallmark Gwth	1678.05	1748.60	+ 2.00	1.04
-do- Accum	2118.00	2207.00	+ 3.00	1.04
Special Sits	181.30	193.60	..	1.30
High Yield	2064.00	2123.00†	- 2.00	3.36
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	125.79	133.73	- 0.44	2.17
American Portfolio	188.53	197.67†	- 1.18	0.46
European Portfolio	291.41	306.56	- 0.19	0.27
High Income	56.20	59.19	- 0.08	6.22
Japanese Portfolio	43.11	45.67†	+ 1.56	..
Pacific Portfolio	91.62	97.88†	+ 1.23	1.50
Us Equity	139.65	148.00	- 0.56	2.60
UK Equity & Bd	72.27	76.62	- 0.25	4.98
UK Sml Cos	62.42	66.77	- 0.32	1.72
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	1048.42	1064.26	+20.12	3.26
Inv Fd Acc	1100.54	1117.18	+21.12	..
Fxd Int Sec Inc	167.45	169.13	+ 0.17	7.51
Fxd Int Sec Acc	185.95	188.69	+ 0.18	..
CCF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	1010.22	1025.48	- 8.25	3.39
Investment Acc	4944.08	5018.61	- 40.24	..
Fixed Int Inc	137.98	139.54	+ 0.53	7.51
Fixed Int Acc	285.45	286.59	+ 1.09	..
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 956 9800				
CF Ind Acc	104.27	109.67	..	5.64
City Fin Fd	37.63	40.56†	..	..
Asian Ethical Tst	223.15	237.40†	..	0.55
City Fin Instls	97.54	102.07	..	2.78
City Fin Intl	87.54	93.10	..	..
Friars Hse Cap	415.70	442.30	..	2.14
Sanctuary Wld Gth	129.74	148.13	..	..
Utilities Fd	94.70	96.60†	- 0.19	2.69
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0777 Advstn: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	41.06	43.56	+ 0.16	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	117.43	124.93	+ 1.36	..
Dragon Growth	37.73	40.35	+ 0.42	0.71
Equity High Inc #	130.92	136.11†	- 0.17	3.99
Equity Income	199.59	211.20	- 0.27	3.89
Euro Income Inc	29.57	31.13	- 0.03	5.74
Euro Income Acc	35.23	37.09	- 0.04	5.74
European Gwth	111.27	117.75	+ 0.55	..
Evergreen	99.46	105.30	+ 0.19	..
General Equity	151.52	159.92	- 0.47	1.90
Japan Growth	30.63	32.58	+ 0.68	..
Pacific Gwth	98.45	104.17	- 0.31	1.28
Pref Shr Cas Inc	50.92	53.88	- 0.07	1.10
Pref Shr Cas Acc	55.55	58.25	- 0.08	1.10
Recessionnet Inc #	57.37	59.75	- 0.02	4.53
Special Sits	64.69	69.56	- 0.24	1.97
Uk & Overseas	77.94	82.46	+ 0.72	0.22
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 908 000				
Balanced	91.90	95.72	- 0.18	2.91
Capital	116.88	121.74	- 0.18	1.59
High Income	97.78	100.191	- 0.06	6.32
Top 50	85.16	88.70	- 0.25	1.60
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 868 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	361.46	372.36	- 0.37	3.72
Long Gilt	53.38	55.56†	- 0.16	4.71
Monthly Inc Plus	83.30	86.98	- 0.12	6.79
-do- Accum	79.20	82.57	- 0.14	6.79
Preference Share	63.41	66.06†	- 0.13	5.90
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	187.66	195.50†	- 0.42	4.93
Managed Fund	92.20	96.05	+ 0.17	2.57
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	57.76	60.17	- 0.02	1.05
-do- Accum	69.86	72.57	- 0.02	1.05
UK & General	136.40	144.18	- 0.30	1.93
-do- Accum	186.59	194.39	- 0.41	1.93
UK Growth	272.09	283.45	- 0.60	1.24
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	386.93	382.26	+ 1.51	..
Far Eastern Gth	78.57	82.88	+ 2.01	0.40
Global Bond	71.22	74.30	+ 0.30	5.17
Japan Growth	77.01	80.23	+ 3.12	..
North Amer Gwth	360.94	376.02	+ 2.38	..
Oriental Growth	45.27	47.16	+ 0.75	1.38
Worldwide Growth	93.22	97.11	+ 0.52	..
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.69	92.69	+ 0.02	6.79
Homemaker Fund	113.08	120.31	+ 0.01	1.91
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Consistent UT	47.56	50.71	..	2.54
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 354				
Growth	222.50	236.40	- 0.90	2.00
UK Equity Inc	96.79	102.92	- 0.34	3.46
European Growth	121.90	129.60	+ 0.40	..
UK Spec Sits	244.50	260.10	- 2.00	1.42
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 8494				
Equity Dist	1372.00	1391.00†	..	3.03
CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MGMT FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 680 370				
Eurocassie Inc	110.00	116.50	+ 0.10	0.27
Refloating Tst	138.40	148.20	- 0.40	0.90
Income #	937.00	987.20	- 1.00	3.38
-do- Accum #	1074.00	1142.00	- 2.00	3.38
Smaller Cos	281.60	299.50†	- 0.40	0.62
-do- Accum	353.20	375.70	- 0.50	0.62
Gbl Portfolio	136.90	145.60	- 0.30	1.84
Mthly Inc Port #	113.10	120.30	- 0.40	5.24
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1894				
Gbl Small Cos	269.01	285.80	- 0.25	1.90
UK Small Cos	2584.69	2694.61	- 17.10	3.28
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
01771 677 8818				
Dfac Inc	303.90	313.301	..	..
DRESDNER RCM FUNDS (UK) LTD				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354 Client Helpline: 0800 317573				
Formerly KBUT				
Amer Smlr Cos	240.92	256.39	+ 1.40	..
Asian Growth	142.46	151.57	+ 2.26	0.40
Bond Income	111.43	115.43†	- 0.08	6.25
European	318.04	338.33†	+ 0.75	0.17
European Prv	153.49	163.26	+ 0.75	0.67
European Special	237.87	253.05	+ 1.60	..
Gilt Yield	131.69	138.90	- 0.36	6.10
Global Eqty Inc	153.17	162.53	- 0.51	1.36
High Yield #	220.79	234.98	- 0.29	3.87
Japan	267.42	284.48	+ 9.10	..
Japanese Special	126.96	135.06	+ 2.62	..
Money Market	105.34	105.34	+ 0.01	..
North American	175.16	186.22	+ 0.50	..
Smaller Cos	183.89	195.62†	- 0.52	0.75
Smlr Cos Dis	79.56	84.63†	..	4.76
Yamaneyes Co Ex	1359.60	1376.00	- 3.00	0.13
UK Index Inc	478.61	491.01†	- 1.76	2.45
Global Income	209.16	207.34	+ 1.06	3.15
Formerly Thornton				
European	539.05	564.45	+ 2.43	0.31
Europe Bd	28.67	29.44	+ 0.10	6.67
Exempt	9825.57	10234.14	+ 3.00	1.73
Global Em Mkts	61.66	64.56	+ 0.51	0.50
Japan Tst	58.75	61.51†	- 1.15	..
Little Dragons	51.66	54.09†	- 0.12	..
Special Income #	29.52	31.12	- 0.25	3.94
Reserves	162.19	169.83	- 0.24	7.82
Tiger	143.44	150.19†	+ 0.78	..
UK Growth	943.31	987.75	- 0.96	1.25
UK High Yield #	159.11	166.68	..	3.88
UK Mid Cap	122.50	128.30	- 0.87	1.53
UK Smlr Cos Dis #	99.16	103.85	..	5.21
UK Smlr Cos	164.96	172.73	+ 0.19	0.91
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
European	97.39	103.10	- 0.39	..
Fingrowth	83.45	88.37	- 0.29	1.13
UK Growth #	412.60	438.40	- 2.00	2.00
UK Income #	247.40	262.80†	- 0.80	3.23
International	494.80	525.70	- 2.30	..
Int Cap Inc	130.70	139.50	- 0.70	1.94
Latin American	79.61	84.93	- 0.49	..
Mgd Wealth Port	111.90	116.90	- 0.30	0.60
Pacific	51.92	55.17	+ 0.04	..
Pref High Inc	29.60	29.75	- 0.05	6.05
Tokyo	131.40	139.90	+ 5.40	..
UK Smaller Cos	324.30	344.60†	- 2.50	1.02
Japan Sm Cos	215.80	229.50	+ 7.60	..
Nth Amer	662.20	700.00	+ 6.90	..
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 378 0242				
Growth Acc	368.70	386.10	..	0.16
Income	727.10	765.40	..	4.05
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	372.10	389.60	..	1.00
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	149.98	157.87†	- 0.34	1.18
Ethical Tst	60.73	63.93	- 0.20	0.62
Far Eastern	191.11	201.17	+ 3.86	2.23
High Income	196.25	206.58	- 0.68	3.50
Uk Index Trckng	73.53	79.50	- 0.09	2.14
Intl Growth	142.22	149.71	- 0.06	1.34
North American	210.74	221.30	- 1.45	1.46
Pelican	209.54	219.15	- 1.57	2.26
Smaller Cos	85.33	89.82†	- 0.56	1.66
Special Sits	105.10	110.63	- 0.48	2.39
Tst of Inv Tsts	270.86	288.27	- 0.33	1.39
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	191.21	202.88	- 0.71	..
Fd of Inv Tsts	69.44	73.68	- 0.08	0.11
High Income #	51.52	54.63	+ 0.01	5.15
Wan & Cd Opps	65.38	69.65	+ 0.12	..
Zero Preference	52.00	55.171	- 0.06	..
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 724 570				
Family Assur Tst	142.40	151.40†	+ 0.20	1.80
Countries Eth	394.20	419.30†	+ 3.30	1.97
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Customer Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Funds				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	..	7.00
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond #	39.63	..	- 0.12	4.80
Income Funds				
High Income	34.13	35.77	- 0.02	4.29
Income Plus #	166.10	207.50†	- 0.10	3.68
Maybuilder Gwth #	46.13	48.46	- 0.09	2.88
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	18.63	19.68	- 0.14	..
Americas	543.70	570.70	+ 7.00	..
Amer Spec Sits	352.70	370.40	+ 4.00	..

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European	373.70	397.40	+ 2.30	0.27
European Opps	145.80	155.10	+ 0.90	0.35
Global Prm	46.47	49.41	+ 0.34	0.17
Global Growth	181.90	193.50	- 0.60	1.01
Growth & Inc #	282.80	279.50	+ 0.30	2.84
Intl PEP	68.84	73.20†	+ 0.22	0.04
Japan Spec Sits	54.55	57.70	+ 1.35	..
Japan	126.30	134.00	+ 4.30	..
Managed Intl	492.80	522.88†	+ 5.60	0.57
Meyhbuilder Plus	89.27	89.90	+ 0.04	0.29
Recovery	76.970	81.848	- 0.17	2.25
South E Asia	121.30	129.30	+ 1.00	1.62
Special Sits	1082.00	1151.00	..	0.96
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	126.17	126.17	+ 0.02	7.00
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	180.90	182.70	+ 3.00	1.50
Fleldberg P

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Equities close near lows of day

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
646	505	Allied Domecq	563	- 3	4.4	13.8
412½	295	Bulmer (HP)	341½	+ 3	5.4	10.6
42½	15½	Burn Stewart	16½			12.9
775	432	Diageo▼	710	- 8	3.2	31.0
906	755	Glenmorangie A	885		2.0	30.4
326	223	Highland Distil	286½	- 3½	2.9	13.3
215	160	Matthew Clark	187½	- 1	13.3	6.1
59½	37½	Merydown	41½		9.3	
2021½	1240½	SA Breweries	1240½	- 3½	2.7	18.5

BANKS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1609½	1178½	ABN-AMRO	1403½	+ ...	2.2	20.6
1345	951	Abbey Natl	1065	- 7	3.6	16.3
1032	585	Alliance & Leic	797	- 8½	3.3	16.1
867½	587½	Allied Irish	867½	+ 11	2.1	24.3
458½	373½	Aus New Z	413½	+ 3½	4.9	
5416½	3881½	Bank America	5234½	- 65½		
613	431	Bank Scotland	671	- 9	1.8	17.9
1996	1068	Barclays	1728	- 7	2.7	16.0
1309	916½	Bk of Ireland	1233	+ 38	2.0	
11027½	6790½	Citicorp	9071½	- 84½		
1690½	1566½	Commerzbk	1609½	+ 3½	3.2	
543½	290½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	353½	+ 18½	1.0	79.9
5368½	3668½	Deutsche Bk	5112½	+ 12½	1.5	
1206½	1153½	Espirito Santo	1168½	- 3½	3.2	
521	228½	Fuji Bank Y	267½	+ 13½	1.4	56.0
2073	1294	HSBC	1521	- 4	4.1	13.2
2062	937	HSBC HK	1452	- 3	4.3	11.6
1000	7...	Halifax	778	- 15	2.8	15.5
842½	642½	Irish Perm	712½		2.5	20.7
1090	698	Lloyds TSB	838½	- 17½	2.6	23.3
916½	759	Nat Aust Bk	790½	+ 10½	4.5	
1341	751	Nat West	1071	- 13	3.8	22.8
673	505	Northern Rock	530	- 2	2.5	20.0
1140	565	Ryl Bk Scott	1040	+ 11	2.7	19.3
1050	5...	Stand Chart	681	- 19	3.4	10
5164½	5164½	Wells Fargo	5164½		1.9	
439	337½	Westpac	365½	+ 8½	3.7	
400	308	Woolwich	328½	+ 1½	3.8	16.9

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1185	873	Bass▼	1123	+ 18	3.2	19.3
81½	50½	Brit Inv for the Bdr	78½	+ 3	3.2	
197½	144½	Burtonwd Brw	182½		4.4	
162½	110	City Centre Rest	147½	- 1	2.4	22.9
700	290½	Compass Gp	689		0.9	45.2
342½	280½	Eldridge P 'A'	320½	- 4	2.5	15.6
384½	251½	Enterprise Inns†	361½	- 1	2.7	20.7
562½	425	Fuller Sm 'A'†	552½	+ 5	2.6	15.6
538	400	Greenalls Grp†	521	- 11	4.1	12.3
760	676½	Greene King	727½	+ 16½	3.2	13.0
358	260	Groupe Chez Ger	333½	- 4	1.3	23.0
281½	214½	Hardy Hanson	246½	- 1½	6.1	10.5
2175	1825	Holt J	2062½		4.1	10.0
76	62	Ion Business	67½		3.5	10.2
317	279	Mansfield	307½		3.3	
360½	254½	Marston Thmp	305		3.4	10.8
472½	402½	Morland†	450		3.7	11.9
384½	287½	Old Eng Pub▲	331		1.1	23.4
35	21½	Paramount	30			
950	678½	PizzaExpress	857	+ 3	0.5	38.7
377½	297½	Ramsdens (H)	325	- 2½	1.9	34.1
388½	157½	Regent Inns	189	- 4½	2.4	13.5
297½	140½	SFI	200	- 5½	0.5	34.9
950	717	Scot & New	848	+ 2	3.3	17.0
303½	197½	Slug & Lettuce	256½	- 1	3.1	33.6
358	227	Vaux Group†	316½	- 1	4.4	13.1
342	273½	Wetherspoon JD	292½	+ 4	0.9	31.4
1145	850	Whitbread†	970	- 6	3.4	17.4
568½	469	Wolvrmptn D	515	- 2½	4.7	11.1
558½	381	Yates Bros	463½	- 8	0.9	28.5
817½	637½	Young 'A'†	817½		2.5	29.0

BUILDING MATERIALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
76½	49½	Aggregate Indst	68½	- 1	3.2	23.7
268	199	Anglian Group	248	- 1	5.2	13.2
447	290	BPB	363	+ 2	3.1	13.6
118½	88½	Baggeridge Brk	102½		4.4	11.0
62½	42½	Blockleys†	47½		1.3	48.5
407	271½	Blue Circle†	338½	- 10	4.3	12.8
149	98½	Breedon PLC	121½		6.0	14.7
192½	135½	Br Dredging	189		4.3	20.5
945	705	CRH	852½	- 1½	1.2	21.3
62½	47½	Cakebread Roy	60½		7.7	5.1
155½	107½	Cape	153½		5.3	13.2
215½	158½	Caradon	186	- ½	5.5	12.9
116½	100½	Caradon pf	111½		8.1	
130½	57½	Cheltain Gp	57½		8.3	4.2
385	212½	Dyson (J&J)	375	- 5	2.0	
130	93	Dyson 'A'	93		10.2	
60½	43½	Ennstone	48½			
197½	147	Epwin†	157	- 2	7.8	8.6
131½	101½	Gibbs & Dandy	131½	+ 2½	3.8	12.2
200	151	Graham Grp	151		5.0	15.0
282½	207½	Halstead (J)	207½	- 7½	6.0	13.0
395	245	Hanson	364½	+ 5½	4.1	12.6
265	179	Hepworth†	216	- 2½	5.2	
178½	120½	Heweston	148½		6.5	
294½	202½	Heywd Wms	262½	- 4½	6.6	10.0
66	43	Ibstock†	51	- 1½	5.4	12.7
365	250	Johnston†	317½		4.7	17.1
107½	84½	Lilleshall	96½		6.5	9.5
129½	82½	Marley	109½	- ½	5.7	9.4
162½	120	Marshalls†	142½	- 2	4.7	12.6
445½	328½	Meyer Intl	355	- 3	4.6	22.1
77½	62½	Norcros	71	+ ½	8.1	
149½	103½	Pilkington	111	- 2	4.6	58.9
196	142	Polypipe	145½	+ 3	3.0	10.9
24	14½	Quiagon	18			
1400	740½	RMC	1039	- 12	3.2	15.1
117½	78½	Ruberoid	101		6.0	11.5
143	108½	Rugby Group	112½	- 2½	4.4	15.8
103½	73½	Russell (A)	98½		3.8	14.9
278	195½	SIG	226	+ 1	4.3	11.5
3½	1½	SWP				
237½	219½	Sharpe & Fisher	221	- 3	3.6	13.0
25	14	Spring Ram†	14½		0.9	
320	144½	Steamline Hldgs	310	- 3	3.7	17.6
133½	93	Tarmac	107	+ 2	6.6	12.8
125	83	Tilbury†	101½	- 1½	6.5	10.1
628½	457	Travis Perkins	523½	- 2	2.6	18.1
107½	60½	Tudor†	85		4.4	11.0
372	180½	Ultraframe†	319½	- 6	1.4	27.0
570	352	Wolseley†	352	- 11	4.1	11.3

CHEMICALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
191½	134½	Albright & Wil	153½	- 1½	4.7	15.2
142½	106½	Amber Ind†	107½		6.7	9.1
118	90½	Amberley Gp	113		2.1	17.1
100	72	Anlone Eri	75½	- 1½	11.3	12.3
2912½	2003½	BASF DM	2846½	- 34½	2.4	
1109	790	BOC†	816½	- 13½	4.3	14.9
555	331½	BTP†	528	+ 3	2.9	23.7
3100	2131½	Bayer DM50	3100	+ 31½	1.8	
126	94½	Brent Chems	106	+ 1	3.6	12.0
342½	210½	Br Vita	257	- 1	4.3	13.0
187½	128½	Brunner Mond	186½		5.8	10.2
296	246½	Canning (W)†	246½	- 4	4.6	11.8
229½	155	Cav Technology	210	+ 1	3.3	40.6
474	234	Courtaulds	445½		3.7	27.0
469	351½	Croda†	382		2.7	18.4
284½	203½	Doeflex	248½		4.3	10.6
178	116	Elementis	154	+ 5½		24.4
313½	260½	Ellis & Everard	286½	- 1	4.5	12.3
79½	53½	Euro Colour†	71½		4.4	12.4
246½	138½	Enbon	245		4.3	
94½	64½	Hicksort	74		7.4	12.9
3062½	2096½	Hoechst	3012½	+ 31½	1.7	
1244	738½	ICI	962	- 6	3.3	38.2
321½	189	Incpec	262½	+ 1½	3.2	11.8
193½	125	Kalon	125	- 6½	6.2	18.5
890½	605	Laporte	717½	- 11	3.6	14.5
75	47	Monstern	58½		5.1	5.6
35	27	Metrotect	33½		5.4	
380	286	Porvair	288	- 9	2.7	15.9
231	181½	Scapa†	181½		4.0	22.5
26½	16½	Sutcliffe Speakt	22		6.8	
1761½	1437½	Takeda Chem	1583½	+ 58½	0.6	20.7
248	196	Victrex†	204	- 2½	3.0	16.2
695	595	Wissahkne R	617½		5.5	9.9
240	196	Yorks Grp	199	- 8½	6.0	12.6
440	282½	Yule Catto†	375½	- 1	3.3	15.4

CONSTRUCTION

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
58½	19½	AAF Inds	40			
375	230	Abbey	310	+ 10	2.7	23.3
480	332½	Alfred McAlpine	455		3.0	
217½	114	Amec†	171½	- 7	3.6	16.9
875	400	Amey	800		1.7	25.7
260	143	Andrews Sykes	217½	- 2½	1.7	21.7
285½	180	Ashtead	236	- ½	1.2	29.4
48½	28½	Avonside	39		4.8	7.5
46	26½	Bandt	37	- ½	4.9	9.9
73	48½	Barcom	70		2.7	17.3
341	224	Barratt Devs	266		4.4	11.6
235	161½	Beazer	183½	+ 2	4.6	10.4
401	303½	Bellway†	308	- 2	3.9	10.3
29½	18½	Bellwinch	29½			10.1
95½	46½	Ben Bailey	70		3.9	8.1
784½	576½	Berkeley Gp	626	- 1½	1.9	11.0
170	145	Bett Bros†	148½		5.8	4.2
315	245	Boot (Henry)	247½		4.3	9.2
276½	182½	Bovis Homes	227	+ ½	5.2	9.9
168½	105	Brandon Hire	141½		2.9	17.3
42½	30½	Britannia Grp	41½	+ 2	4.2	16.7
156½	109	Bryant	109½	- ½	5.8	10.1
129½	102½	CALA	116½		4.2	7.2
4	3	Campbell & Arms	3			
141½	65½	Clarke T	136½		5.6	9.4
42½	30	Costain	33½			
125½	97½	Countryside†	99	- 1	4.1	7.8
145½	94½	Crest Nicholson	127½	- ½	4.0	8.3
122½	85½	Cussins	105		5.4	8.1
280	160	Eve Group	262½		3.4	
23½	19½	Galliford	20½	- ½	6.3	12.0
1100	1010	Gleeson (MJ)†	1010		2.3	14.9
175	96	Hanwock Euro†	109	- 1	5.4	7.4
212	152	Hewden-Stuart†	173	- 4	2.6	20.8
38	20	Howard Hldgs	33		5.4	22.8
798	369½	Jarvis†	692½	- 12½	1.4	26.2
252½	181	Keller	230	- 2½	2.8	14.4
247½	199½	Kier	242½		3.7	12.2
397½	309½	Laing (J)†	386½		3.3	21.3
132½	117½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	132		6.1	
14½	6½	Lovell (YJ)	12	+ ½		
212½	155½	Maunders (J)	209½		3.8	12.1
181½	133½	McAlpine (A)	148½	- ½	6.3	8.8
191½	113½	McCarthy & St	165	- 1	2.5	12.0
142½	70	McInerney	122½		1.0	13.9
246½	171½	Morgan Sindall	241½		2.7	14.7
397½	301	Morrison Const	370		2.0	
150	77½	Mowlem (J)†	146		3.4	13.4
259½	182½	Persimmon	200	- 3	6.2	9.4
109½	80½	Peterhouse	91½		5.1	6.4
128½	112	Pochins	136½		2.7	14.0
158½	116	Prowting†	136½	- ½	4.2	8.6
198	139	Raglow	149½	- 2½	3.1	11.0
325	222½	Spender	317½		1.5	18.3
94½	70½	Swan Hill	71	- ½	4.8	12.9
142½	114	Tay Homes	115		8.3	9.3
238	174	Taylor Woodrw†	201	- ½	2.2	15.3
308	190	Tilbury Douglst	287½	- 4	4.3	15.8
29½	21½	Try Group	33½		3.4	8.1
86	63½	Vibroplant	85½		6.0	30.8
129½	109½	Wainhomes	117½		5.8	
60	58½	Ward Hldgs	50½		6.4	7.2
272½	208½	Westbury†	242½	- 2½	3.8	10.4
16	12½	Wiggins	15			22.0
171	136½	Wilson (C)	137		5.0	
691½	511	Wilson Bowdn	632½	- 19½	2.5	13.0
145½	92½	Wimpey G	116½	- ½	6.1	9.7

DISTRIBUTORS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
317	162½	Acton Cp Spls	252½		1.4	21.1
457	342½	BSS Group	342½	- 5	8.0	
20½	12½	Beaming Power	16			
34½	34½	Bogod 'A'	34½			
730	550	Brammer	655½		3.3	5.5
16½	10½	Bridgend Grp	16		3.3	14.6
113½	79	Bull Fittings			1.6	25.5
372½	320	Caffyns	107½	+ 6	5.9	8.9
366	83½	Car Group	322½		3.4	8.6
175½	134½	Caverdale†	85	+ 1	7.1	9.7
54½	31½	Cook (DC)	146½	+ 3	3.4	9.3
139½	96½	Dag Motors	43		7.1	6.2
125½	105½	Desmond Fr	121½		8.3	7.1
276	210	Dixons†	119½		3.2	7.8
601	380	Electrocomponents†	216		8.4	9.0
186	143½	Europe Elec	470	- 6½	2.4	24.9
122	84½	European Mtr	155½	- 7	3	26.7
305	260½	Evans Halshaw	101½	- 1½	7.8	7.4
70½	39½	Fife Indmar	265		8.0	8.5
400½	300½	Finelist Grp	62½		7.4	7.1
28	21½	Gardiner	306		3.3	12.2
83½	60½	Glencherwton	26½	- ½	4.8	11.2
135½	89½	Gowrings	63	+ ½	4.0	8.9
20½	13	HR Owen	112	- ½	3.9	10.6
405	340	Headlam†	17½		5.7	11.4
160	126	Heaton Tech	376		2.3	19.5
120	39½	ISA Intl	126		6.6	8.0
250	136½	Inchcape	51½	- 3	8.0	5.1
80	57½	Jacks (Wm)†	191	- 2½	6.2	23.0
583½	351½	Kwik-Fit	60½		7.2	5.7
614	422½	Lex Service	490	- ½	1.7	22.0
123	100	Lookers	497	- ½	4.4	12.6
535	351	Menzies (John)	105	+ 1	10.1	6.6
5½	2	Mindlesser	535		3.2	17.3
29½	14½	Metralest	3	-		
326½	242	Norcam	23½	- ½	2.6	
291	197½	Northamber	297½	+ 7½	3.7	12.0
342	192½	Parrco	216		1.7	14.3
312½	229	Pendragon	201	+ 7	5.4	9.7
255	167½	Perry Grp	230		5.8	10.9
443	272	Premier Farnell	197½	- 5	6.0	7.7
164½	119½	Quick Group	305	- 1½	5.3	12.1
285	140	REA	135½		7.1	9.3
3	1½	Reece	165		2.5	27.7
39½	30½	Ringy	2½			
5½	4½	Roxcan	32½	- 1		
5½	3½	Sees Gp	4½	-		
112½	97½	Ryland	4½			9.5
31½	25½	SEP Ind	100		5.5	7.6
30	14	Saltire	29½		5.7	13.6
290	211½	Sanderson Bram	17½	- 1½		
67½	48	Sedgemoor†	217½	- 11	3.2	7.9
273½	226½	Sytner	51½		3.4	
195½	130½	Time Products†	252½	- 1	3.4	11.8
235	132½	Trust Motor Grp†	134½		17.6	7.4
440	374	UMECO†	230		1.4	4.0
124	88½	United Ocean Gp	382½	+ 2½	2.3	17.6
299½	244½	Vardy (Reg)	98½		1.4	22.6
800	655	WF Elect	247½	- 1½	4.3	
193½	140	Wyko	760		2.6	23.4
165½	135	Young (H)†	156		2.6	14.6
			152½	- 1	3.9	10.3

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
330	250	Antofagasta▼	252½	- 5	2.8	18.6
385	229	Ascot Hldgs	298	- 1	4.9	9.0
642	455	Broken Hill	506½	+ 24½	3.7	
697½	466½	BAT†	600	- 10	4.8	15.2
43½	28	Brierley Inv	39½	- ½	9.8	7.6
279½	167	Cookson	206	- 3	4.5	12.0
277½	217½	Cosalt†	237½		6.1	8.0
615	410	DCC†	555		1.7	17.9
383	302	Gallaher	331½	+ 9½	7.3	9.4
450½	235	Hutch Whamp	316½	+ 2½	4.0	
474½	383½	Imperial Tob†	442	+ 5	6.2	10.6
335½	154½	Jardine Math	161½	- 6½	9.3	7.7
94½	70½	Lonrho Africa	73½	- ½	4.0	18.1
623½	474½	Powell Duffryn	550	+ 16½	5.8	13.4
147	101	Staveley	109		11.0	25.4
368½	174½	Swire Pacific	226½	+ 2	6.1	7.2
383	241½	TT Group	295½	- 1	3.7	11.3
384½	288	Tomkins	325½	+ 11½	3.7	13.8
250	207½	Unitary†	240		6.8	12.2
570	415	Wardle Storeys†	487		5.3	14.4
381½	296½	Wassall	298½	- 1½	2.6	13.7
135½	78½	Whitecroft	89½		6.5	14.5

ELECTRICITY

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615½	310	Br Energy†	524	+ 14	3.5	19.7
411½	296½	National Grid▼	404	- 2	3.7	20.4
700	516	National Power†	564	- 13½	6.0	11.8
900	725	PowerGen†	838	- 30½	4.4	12.0
597½	502½	Hydro-Elect	532½	+ 6½	4.7	11.5
599	475	Scottish Power†	534	- 3	4.8	12.7
580	467	Southern Elec	542	- 13	5.6	13.3
615	522	Viridian	557		5.3	12.3

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1240	715	ARM Holdings	1185	+ 80		
410	304½	Acal†	377½	- 2½	3.6	13.3
1282½	690	Admiral	1282½	+ 45	0.3	
58½	27½	Amstrad	42		1.5	
35	26½	Arlen	32½		5.0	10.8
129½	81½	Astec	81½	- 1½	2.4	8.7
77½	43½	Aston	69½			
182½	127½	BICC†	131	- 4½	7.6	
89½	51½	Beales Hunter	81½		15.6	7.9
437½	260	Brick	437½		4.2	14.2
604½	345½	Bowthorpe†	522½	+ ½	2.7	20.0
18	12	Bulgin A	15½		10.1	9.0
265½	150½	CML Micro	160½	- 1	5.7	14.5
27½	10	Channel Hldgs	13		11.1	4.1
51	38½	Chloride†	48		2.1	14.5
109½	64½	Claymore	107		4.2	11.8
812½	722½	Crichley†	852½	- 30	2.1	
342½	213½	Delta†	218½	- 14	7.3	8.6
451	392	Domino	449	- 1	3.6	15.1
77½	51	Dowding Mills	57		7.0	10.8
320	240	Druck	285		0.8	30.7
1250	825	Electrolux 'B'	1028½	- 37½	9.1	27.4
28	17	Emess	28½		2.8	18.9
1862½	1089½	Ericsson 'B'	1750	+ 9½	0.8	38.0
491½	311	Eurotherm	421	+ 1	3.0	18.5
590	327½	Fenay Group	327½	- 9	3.8	9.4
587½	395	Filtronic	401½	+ 5½	0.5	27.8
18½	7½	Forward Tech	13½			
550	338	GEC	548½	+ 3½	3.2	28.8
49½	35½	Ind Control	43	- ½	1.5	
22	15	Intelek	18		6.8	
81	54½	LPA†	75½		3.9	24.3
1004½	445	Mitel	891½	- 1½		
180½	117½	Network Tech†	138½	- 1	1.2	15.7
372	255	Oxford Inst	320	- 8½	3.2	
111	23½	Pace Micro	75	- ½	3.3	
6271½	3450	Philips Lmp nv	5037½	+ 9½	0.9	23.2
68½	38½	Plasmon	36½			
356	272½	Pressac	312½		1.8	22.8
60½	27	Psionick	29		4.7	8.1
692½	204	Psion	650	- 42½	0.5	83.1
409½	243½	Racal Elec	338½	- 1	2.2	63.8
97½	51½	Radamec†	80	- 1½	4.8	17.6
505	335	Renishaw	436		2.6	25.5
1½	1½	Rodime				
297½	191½	Roxboro	242	- 2	3.8	12.6
361½	202½	SDX Bus Sys	316½	+ 1½	1.0	31.1
377½	237½	Servomex	242½		4.9	11.9
59½	38½	Silverminest	47½		3.8	10.7
5012½	4128½	TDK	4425	+ 69½	0.6	
72½	57½	TGI	63½	+ 6	7.5	
125	88½	TLG†	113½		4.1	
62	7	Tadpole Tech	16	- 2½		
87½	38½	Telemetrix†	80½		3.3	14.6
365	230	Telspec	287½			35.2
158½	119½	Thorpe FW	140	- ½	4.1	7.6
159½	70½	Total Systems	122½		1.4	26.5
160	100	Tunstall†	158		4.1	21.0
18	7	Ultima Networks	9½	- ½		
111	66½	Venty	84½	- 2	0.1	
195½	84½	Vero	189½		3.8	17.0
40½	22½	Vigilen Technology	25		2.0	
660	460	Volex	655		4.4	15.8

ENGINEERING

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312½	217½	AIM	270	- 5	3.5	12.7
44	26	ASW	36	- 1		
255	145	Alumasc	193	- 3	5.5	8.6
214	129½	Alvis†	182	- 2	2.4	12.8
176½	158½	Ash & Lacy	159		6.1	7.5
125	70	Ayrshire Metal	70		9.8	4.5
535½	345½	BBA	452	+ 2	1.8	18.5
230½	154½	BTR▼	170	+ 3½	5.8	11.2
97½	68½	BWI	83½		4.8	9.4
92½	61	Babcock	75		2.4	
13	6½	Bailey (CH)	9½	- ½	3.3	
110½	77	Baynes (Charles)	87½		4.6	12.4
27½	7½	Beautort	8		12.5	4.2
261½	181½	Bensford	229½	- ½	3.4	10.4
109	84	Berstd Cv Ue Ln	98½		5.1	
1285	887½	Bodycote†	1055	- 5	1.2	24.2
44½	35½	Booth Inds	42½			18.8
20½	15	Brasway	15	- ½	7.8	
141	80½	Braynd	82½		6.4	10.4
587	381½	Br Aerospace	459	- 10½	1.3	19.9
172	122½	Br Steel†	131½	+ ½	9.5	11.2
159½	116½	Brooke Indt†	118½	- 3½	5.5	6.3
16½	9½	Brunel	10		8.2	4.6
107½	92½	Bullough	97½	+ ½	7.4	10.1
35	25½	Carbo†	28	- 2	4.8	56.2
217½	150	Carclo Eng	165½	+ 3	8.7	
233½	181½	Castings†	185½	- 7	3.9	
272½	182½	Chamberlin Hill†	182½		6.3	7.6
780	570	Charter	627½	+ 2½	5.0	20.5
172½	110½	Chemring†	169½	-	2.2	
275	98½	Clyde Blowerst	98½		8.8	15.6
1247½	732½	Cobham†	1050		1.5	27.5
430	320	Cohen (A)	390			
150½	105½	Concentric†	141½		6.5	25.7
268½	184½	Davd Brown†	207½	- 5	5.5	12.3
511	282½	EIS	503		3.6	17.6
32½	15	Eleco	28			11.4
50	37	Energy Tech†	43½	- 1	4.3	
161½	124½	Expamet	143½		3.4	13.8
228½	147½	FKI	174½	- 3½	4.4	10.5
216	157½	Fenner†	157½	- 10	3.4	12.1
3	1½	Ferrum	2			
40	28½	Firth Hldgs	30½	- ½	1.0	23.1
182	126½	Firth Rixson	151½		2.5	15.2
45½	17½	Flare	19½	- 2	6.4	17
116	91½	GEI Int	104		4.8	8.8
206½	148½	Garton Engt	191½		5.2	8.8
331½	216½	Glynwed	245½	+ 6	6.7	9.9
159½	92½	Haden MacLn†	134		2.9	13.8
256	185	Hadleigh	240		4.0	
257	148	Hall Eng	149		7.0	6.0
140½	99½	Halma	124½	+ ½	2.8	14.9
83½	64½	Hampson Ind	75		4.5	
65½	32½	Hav (Norman)†	52½	- 1	2.4	14.9
63½	40½	Heaton	53		3.8	7.1
71½	42½	Hill & Smith	65½		8.3	15.7
125	65½	How Grt	116		3.0	16.8
273	210½	Hunting†	266		3.8	14.2
532	351	IMI	371½	+ 4	3.8	12.1
652	467½	Johnson Matthy	539	- 6	3.9	11.4
28½	18½	Jones Stroud	19		3.4	
435	375	Kelsey Indt	384		9.4	6.1
418	299½	Lincat†	368½	- 1½	3.7	11.7
32½	23½	Locker (T)†	26½	- 1	4.7	7.8
22½	16½	MS Int	18½	- ½	4.1	
508½	403½	Mang Bronze	501½		2.5	20.8
569½	377½	McKechnie†	436	- 8½	5.0	11.5
179½	154½	McLeod Russell	154½		5.7	10.9
242½	154½	Meggitt†	194½	+ ½	3.0	20.9
115	82½	Metalrax	94		5.5	12.8
14½	11½	MetalTech	12½			7.1
265½	142½	Metsec†	255½		2.4	14.2
357½	215½	Molins	215½	- 7	8.7	
501½	388½	Morgan Crblt	388½	- 3½	5.0	12.4
57½	48½	Polymetron†	49½		9.5	7.0
609½	45	Powerscreen	92½		14.2	2.4
230½	155½	Quadramatic†	197½		6.6	10.4
52½	30	Quadrant Grp	50½	- 2		
60	50	Radiant Metal	56			
290½	226½	Renold†	237½		3.8	9.2
87½	51½	Richardson West	60½	- 19½	9.3	5.3
309	188	Rolls-Royce†	247½	+ 4	3.0	18.8
387	269	Rotork	360		3.2	24.0
265½	140	Rubicon	176½	- 11	4.4	12.5
1425	1090½	SKF 'B'	1090½		3.6	10.8
248	139½	Senior Eng	198	+ 1	2.1	18.3
612½	427½	Siebe	430	- 7½	2.9	13.3
1580	975	Siebe	1197	+ 12	1.4	19.6
148½	114½	Six Hundred	125½		5.7	
1020	702	Smiths Ind	830	- 11½	2.8	18.6

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
156½	123	Adwest	126½		6.2	9.9
223	150	Airflow Streaml	183	+ 13	5.5	18.2
701	617	Avon Rubber	660	- 3	3.3	13.1
345	260	Bostrom	260	- 5½	3.5	9.3
193½	114½	Britax†	162½	- 2½	2.4	18.0
295½	251½	Dennis†	262	- ½	3.4	15.4
413½	277½	First Tech	395½	- 7	1.3	22.7
930	526½	GKN	763½	- 17½	1.9	19.5
4671½	3418½	General Mtr	4058½	+ 38½	3.0	
607	414½	Henlys	527½	+ 8	3.9	13.3
2329½	1991½	Honda Motor	2133½	+ 49½	0.4	
480	279	Laird	279	- 3	5.1	7.4
288	194	LucasVarity†	238	+ 5	2.4	13.7
244½	156½	Mayflower	200	+ ½	1.7	19.5
136	95½	Salome	114½		7.8	
261	252½	T & N	258		4.4	15.0
31½	22½	Tord	24½			
51½	36½	Wilshaw	44	- 1	2.9	

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
670	526	AB Food	565½	- 6½	2.2	17.5
270	202½	Acatos & Hutch	220		8.0	
37	21½	Albert Fisher†	23	+ ½	18.3	8.9
235	192½	Banks (S C)	205	- 2	7.0	7.4
510	417	Barr (AG)	508½		4.1	
45	34	Beesons Crsp	36	- ½	5.2	8.1
360	209	Booker†	247½	- 3½	12.1	11.0
1077½	571½	Brake Bros†	927½	- 5	1.5	25.3
125	85	CPL Aromat†	121		5.0	10.3
995	600	Cadbury-Schwt	927½	- 4	1.8	24.9
262	108	Carrs Milling	108	- 5½	13.3	5.3
345½	234½	Carnwick	328½		4.5	13.0
371	253	Dairy Crest Group†	342½	+ 1	4.0	13.3
67	37½	Daniels S†	50		1.3	16.4
545½	375	Devro	503½	- 1	2.4	21.4
188½	149½	Express Dairies	166½	+ 1	6.2	12.6
142½	99	Finlay (James)†	113	- 2	3.7	12.2
611	404	Geest†	568½	- 5½	2.1	23.6
15½	8½	Global	10½		8.1	13.7
360	285	Greencore†	320		3.7	17.5
240½	164½	Hazlewood Fds	240	+ 1	3.9	17.5
214½	142	Hillsdown†	162	- 2	7.3	10.1
415	392	Linpn Park†	402½	- 2½	6.9	7.0
118	86	Matthews (B)	117½	+ 3	4.6	18.0
227½	205½	Nichols (V)	217½		4.5	11.4
240	182	Nthn Foods	218	+ 3	3.7	19.7
20	14½	Nthmbrn Frt	16		2.3	7.1
225	175½	PIC Intl	225	+ 10		
132½	89½	Paramount Foods	121½	- 1	5.3	13.9
57	28½	Pascoe's	38½	- 1		
149½	82½	Perkins Food	143½		4.0	18.5
88	69½	Plant & Gen	78			
92	59	Sentry Farm	68		5.5	
39½	19½	Stoc Food	39½	+ 2½		8.0
583	440½	Tate & Lyle†	475½	- 4½	3.6	10.7
167	111½	Tomkin†	135		5.7	10.4
738½	581½	Unigate†	664	- 6½	4.1	14.3
741	346½	Unilever†	638	- 18	1.6	30.0
5063½	3500	Unilever (NV)	4768½	- 118½	1.4	13.3
300	216½	Utd Biscuits†	240	- 1	5.5	17.1
62½	44½	WT Foods†	57½	+ ½	3.3	

HEALTHCARE

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
541	318½	Alpha UniChem†	522½	+ 7	2.3	23.1
170	135	Assoc Nursg	170		2.8	26.8
1010	693	Bespak	1010		1.6	28.9
525	115	Biocomps Intl	121	- 6½		
245½	144	Care UK†	237½		0.7	25.5
88½	28½	Calise	37			
550½	389½	Community H	550½	+ ½	2.8	19.7
34½	26½	CrestaCare	34½	+ ½	3.6	16.4
18½	7½	Enviromed	15			
164½	122½	Fenaris Group	123	+ ½	3.5	10.6
172½	144½	Gyrus	160			
225	141	Hamilton Tect	210		1.8	24.6
138½	76½	Innovative Tech	83½			
95	68	Intercare Gp	78½	- 2½	5.8	42.3
655	465	Isotron	555	- 9	1.5	19.9
222	150	Lon Intl†	209½	+ 2	1.5	32.8
360	190½	Nestor Hith	322½		1.5	34.6
52½	335½	Nycomed Amsh	448½	- 2½	1.0	25.6
5½	5½	Premier Health†	5½			
11	6½	Regent	6½			
508½	255½	Scholl	482	+ 5½	2.2	28.5
822½	501½	Seton Scholl†	752½	+ 3½	1.7	23.1
810	430	Shield Diag	467½	- 20		
230	171½	Sinclair Mont	176½	- 3	0.1	63.8
194	142	Smith & Nephr	149½	+ ½	4.1	13.8
2½	1½	Tarrant†	1½		6.3	
412½	295	West Hithcare	315½		2.7	14.4

HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
177½	132½	Acaprint†	148½		6.2	7.7
220	165½	Aira	213½	+ 2½	3.9	
85	55	Albion†	67½		6.1	7.8
166½	120½	Alexander†	152½	- 1½	5.7	12.2
182½	124	Allied Textile	128	- 3½	8.3	8.4
25½	13½	Armour	20½		4.5	50.9
205	157	BLP Group	160		5.9	5.8
285½	208	Baird (Wm)†	208	- 2	6.2	10.7
58½	48½	Bisson Biccart	48½		1.9	
149½	97½	Black Arrow	108½	+ 1	3.0	8.9
421½	358	Black (Peter)	386	- 2½	2.2	17.1
94½	76	British Mohair	85½	- 1	5.8	73.7
88½	13	Clarkson Bar	37	+ 3½	6.8	
100	70½	Coats Viyella†	74	- 1	8.4	28.7
182½	140½	Cornwell Prir Sp	141½	- 2	2.9	11.3
368	285	Courtaulds Text	280	+ 2½	6.8	11.0
33½	22½	Creighton	23½			
13½	5	Dailyarie	5½		7.1	
68½	39½	Dawson	43	- 3	10.4	6.3
167½	126	Denby Group†	147½	- 1	4.0	10.8
257½	182	Dewhirst†	183	- 10	3.7	11.1
27½	17	Dinkie Heel	22½		8.9	8.2
27	11½	Drummond Group	17		3.7	36.5
130	104½	Eclipse Blinds	120½		3.7	10.5
42	29	Ebiel	33½		4.5	7.0
131½	82½	FII Group	85		5.9	6.5
34	24	Faupel Trading	25		11.0	
10½	3½	Foster (J)	4½	+		
44½	35½	French	36½		5.5	
502½	341½	Gaskell†	432	- 3	2.5	8.4
78½	60	Haggas (J)	67½		8.3	13.1
12½	8½	Harcalone Group	12½		1.6	
257½	202½	Hickling Pentecost†	202½		5.1	
4	2½	Hollas Group	2½			
18½	10½	Honeysuckle Grp	14			
102	62½	Horace Small	92½			
405	260	IWP Intl†	352½	- 2½	1.8	
25½	9½	Jacques Vert	18½			
52½	34½	Jerome Grp	35		12.1	12.5
320	277	Jones Stroud	279½		5.0	11.8
72½	47½	Jourdan (T)	48½		3.1	
134	80	Kenwood App	97½	- 15		10.8
245	200	Lambert Howarth	228	+ 2½	4.7	10.0
152	123	Lamont Hldgs†	123	- 1	13.0	8.7
123	65	Leeds Group†	65	- 1½	13.5	4.7
17	8½	Leslie Wise	11		17.0	4.7
16	11½	Lionheart	11½		4.3	9.3
210	68	Lyles (S)†	172½	- 1	4.3	8.0
138	103½	Maysom	122½	- 1	5.2	12.6
650	550	Osborne & Little†	582½	- 7½	8.2	8.8
4½	2½	PEX Group	2½		4.8	10.8
126	35½	Parkland Group	35½	- ½	14.4	
475	435	Paterson Zch	455		4.8	10.1
445	375	Paterson Zch 'A'	406		5.4	9.0
129	109½	Pentland Group†	110	- ½	4.2	15.7
220	165	Pifco	211		3.9	10.7
203	185	Pifco 'A' Vtg	199		4.4	10.1
60½	37½	Pittards	42½	- ½	10.3	9.4
44½	36	Readicut Intl†	40½	- ½	8.0	
1300	852	Reckitt Colm†	1144	- 5	2.1	21.2
64½	49½	Relyon	553½		3.3	17.8
36	17½	Richards	21	- ½	11.9	
227½	174½	Royal Doulton	219	- 5	5.7	29.8
24	20½	SEET	28½			
45½	29½	Sherwood Group	38		11.8	10.2
118½	88½	Shiloh	98½		5.4	11.9
285	260	Silentnight	277½		5.2	11.3
70½	52½	Sirdar	59		11.8	7.5
53	32½	Stirling Group	44½		7.3	8.0
16½	3½	Stoddard	5	+ ½	9.4	
252½	125	Stoves	131½	- 1	5.7	8.8
278½	152	Swallowfield	153½		6.5	7.5
206½	147	Tomkinsons†	148½		9.7	7.5
142	134	Ucher (F)	135½		10.1	7.0
88	60	Victoria	72		6.1	8.7
150	117½	Vymura	134	+ 1	5.0	9.5
74	40	Walker Greenbk†	58	- 3	6.8	10.8
105½	78½	Witton Wdpad	78½		2.1	22.1
100½	68½	Wensum†	95½		6.5	8.1
195	185	Wood (Arthur)	185		4.7	12.3
140	88½	Yorklyde†	90		6.9	14.2

INSURANCE

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4253½	3250	Am Gen	4253½	+ 53½	2.1	
149½	108	Angerstein	142	- 1½	9.2	11.0
4325	3309½	Aon Corpn	4190½	- 134½	1.6	
65½	42	Bradstock	42	- 3	14.8	
1364	1102½	Brunnick	1141	+ 4½	3.7	7.7
1300	707	CGU	1118	+ 2	2.9	22.6
167	129	CLM Insce	164½	+ ½	10.4	10.1
277½	262½	Charles Taylor	264½		2.2	38.1
535½	237	Cox Insce†	452½		1.2	25.5
565	495	Dom & Gen	545		2.3	20.0
150	112	Euclidian	136½		13.7	16.9
491½	303	FBD IE	447½	+ 1	2.1	17.1
495	325	GRE	351	- 8	3.4	5.1
748½	441½	Hibernian IE	693½	+ 9½	1.7	11.6
261	165	Hiscox†	232½		1.8	28.4
397½	229	Independent	339½	+ 3	1.2	17.0
602½	342½	Irish Life	559½	+ 4½	2.4	16.4
193½	151½	Jardine Lyd Th	178	- ½	7.0	11.9
195½	107	Kiln Capital†	184½		9.3	
130½	100½	Lambert Fen	103		7.1	
785	632	Legal & Gen	639½	- 5½	2.5	18.0
2278½	1175	Liberty Life	1175	- 43½	2.8	12.9
244	145	Lloyd Insur	217½	- 1½	4.2	4.6
627½	482½	Londn & Man	482½	- 4	8.4	19.8
3731½	2881½	Marsh McLn	3616½	+ 34½	2.2	
135	100	Meadhurst	120½	- 1	16.8	6.6

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
110½	81½	Dnel	106½		6.2	
138	117	Premium Trust	134½		3.6	27.7
1000	654	Prudential	789½	- 3½	2.4	18.6
24½	17½	PWS	23		4.1	5.1
805	590	Royal & Sun All	619½	+ 7½	3.7	16.5
383	157½	St James Place	325½	- 12	0.6	38.2
169½	123½	Sedgwick	128	+ 2	5.5	11.4
29	21½	Steel Burrill	22½		8.3	
645	434½	Sun Life & Pr	552	- 14	2.6	28.9
160	110	Syndicate Capal	160		7.2	12.6
63	521½	Utd Assurance	563½	- 11½	4.7	13.2
260½	147½	Wellington†	255	+ ½	3.5	10.7
173½	128½	Willis Corroon†	152½	- ½	5.8	12.8
16	11½	Windsor	14½		5.2	
191½	146½	Wren	181½		9.0	14.5
678	490	3i†	613	- ½	2.1	33.9
65	47½	Aberdeen Emg Ec	54½	+		
137½	96½	Aberdeen High Inc	129	- 1	7.5	19.2
133	84	Abrdn New Dawn	100	+ 1½	2.1	
257	206½	Abertorth Smir	227	+ 1	3.9	25.3
159½	116	Aberforth Sm Wts	130½			
3086	2485	Alliance	2995	- 7½	2.5	45.9
726½	584	Anglo & O'seas	699½	+ 1½	1.9	62.9
74½	59	Audi Opps	59		0.5	
87	50½	Baillie Gifford SN	55½	+ 1½		
299	239½	Bankers	270½	- 1½	2.2	43.8
118	85½	Baring Em Eu	96½			
619½	468½	Barng Tribne	594½	+ ½	1.7	65.8
142½	114½	Br Assets†	131½	- 2	4.7	24.5
122½	106	Br Empire Sec	117½	- 1½	1.1	63.8
61½	42½	Brazilian†	46½			
375½	313	Brunner	348	- 1	2.3	54.6
110	74½	Calrngorm Dem	82½	- ½	1.4	
1000	737½	Candover	870	+ 15	2.9	35.7
88½	53½	Central Euro Gwth	55			
523	364	Chart European	500½	- 1½	1.5	
198	168	City Merch HY†	186		6.2	15.3
281	230	City Of Lon	259½	- 1½	3.2	35.8
77½	74½	Danae Inv Inc	75		13.8	9.6
635	530	Derby Cap	552½			
139½	127½	Derby Inc	136½		17.9	4.2
242½	170½	Dres RCM Smir	227½		1.4	
220½	174½	Dunedin Inc G	207½		3.6	32.8
467	335½	Dunedin Smir	428½		3.1	36.4
238½	170	Dunedn Wwdet	215		1.1	
60½	40	Edin Dragon	45½	+ ½		
29½	21	Edinburgh Inca	23½	+ ½		
519	413½	Edinburgh IT†	483	- 2½	3.0	33.4
105	81½	Edin Japan	90	+ 2½		
530	424½	Edin US Trk	524½	- 4½	0.9	
673	527	Electra Invt	646½		2.0	45.6
188½	157	Eng & Scot	174	- ½	2.5	37.7
28½	22½	Ent Cap	23	- ½		
605½	374	European Asset	567½	+ ½	0.8	
78½	40½	Fidity Asian Val	46½	+ ½		
398	277½	Fidity Euro Val	351	+ 1½	0.2	
32½	25	Fidity Jap Val	28½	+ 1½		
177½	135½	Fidity Spec Val	162½	+ ½	1.0	
281	217½	Finsbury 'A'	276½		1.8	
223	173	Finsbury Gwth	209½	+ ½	2.1	58.7
155½	118½	Five Arr Chile	118		2.6	53.4
18½	1½	Five Arr Wts	1½			
647½	513½	Fleming Amer	615	- 5½	0.4	
64	34½	Fleming Asian	41½	+ ½		
12½	3	Fleming Asian Wts	8½			
64½	30½	Fleming Chinese	36½	+ ½		
27½	10½	Fleming Ch Wts	17½			
507½	401½	Fleming Clever	468½	+ 2½	1.8	64.9
699½	471	Fleming Contt	647	+ 1	0.5	
134	99	Fleming Ent Mkts	105½		0.5	
369½	271	Fleming Emg	348½	- 1½	1.9	52.0
471	307	Flem Gbl Gth Ord	384	- 1½	0.9	
162½	143½	Flem Gbl Gth Pf	161½		10.1	
132½	103	Fleming Inc Cap	123½	+ ½	5.8	18.8
112½	105½	Fleming Ing Inct	107½	+ ½	11.5	9.9
350½	246½	Fleming Ing Cap	314½			
50½	34½	Fleming Indian	36½			
12½	4½	Fleming In Wts	7½			
167½	121	Fleming Japan	134½	+ 3½		
478	364½	Fleming Merc	411½		3.2	37.1
92	70½	Fleming Nat Res	72½		0.3	
433½	350½	Fleming Oseas	405½	+ 7½	1.4	
200½	148½	Fleming Smir Co	186	- 1	3.0	54.1
506½	371½	Fleming US Discv	454		0.3	
210½	168	Foreign & Col	194½	- ½	1.4	68.0
124½	97	F&C Inc Gwth	113½		4.0	28.3
107½	71½	F&C Emg Mks	77½			
302½	215½	F&C Enterprise	298½		1.6	54.2
543	381½	F&C Eurotst	511½	+ 1	0.6	
131	95	F&C Pacific	105½	+ 1½	2.2	54.9
182½	144½	F&C PEP	171½		3.3	37.4
227	177	F&C Smaller†	212½	+ ½	1.8	
179½	144½	F&C US Smir	168	- ½		
68½	68½	Fornto Inct	86½	- ½	10.0	11.2
173½	109½	Fornto Cap	154			
91½	79½	3 Fry Utd Inct	89		7.9	64.5
150	121½	Jupiter Ex Inct	143½	- ½	6.8	18.2
43½	19½	Jupiter Ex Incw	38½			
105	91	Jupiter Gid Capt	98½	+ ½	10.2	10.4
51½	44	Jupiter Grd Pld	49			
160½	135½	Jupiter Ind Gth	155½	- 1	3.3	
872½	518	Jupiter Prima	762½		1.0	
104	73½	Kiwd E Mkt	85	+ ½		
178½	164½	Kiwd Fund	176			
156	118	Kiwd H Incw	144		8.7	14.6
201½	89	Korea—Euro	96		1.2	44.4
132	97	Latin American	103	- ½		
1289	1077½	Law Debenture	1232½	- 1	2.9	34.3
121½	111½	Life Oil Opp	119			
161½	124½	Lloyds Sm Cap	149	- ½		
22	10½	Lloyds Sm Dw	19½		28.2	4.4
178	143	Lloyds Sm Pkg	169	- ½	3.5	
217½	173½	Lon St Lawrence	209		3.8	32.4
429	341½	Lowland	418	- 2½	3.5	35.6
812½	797½	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	800			
51½	50	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	50			1.6
101	75½	M&G Inc Geared†	95½	- ½	7.9	17.2
78½	54	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cp	73½			
26½	21½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inct	21½			3.6
183½	150½	M&G Inc Package†	178	- 1	4.2	31.9
85	77½	M&G Inc Zero Dw	80½	+ ½		
70½	31	M&G Rec Cap	59½	- ½		
95½	53½	M&G Rec Geared†	90½	- ½	8.2	
28	21	M&G Rec Inct	22			
206	160	M&G Rec Paccet	201		3.7	
114½	108½	M&G Rec Zero Dw	113½			
226½	180½	M Currie Euro	216½	+ ½	0.5	
84½	69	M Currie Japan	85½	+ 3		
125½	86	M Currie Pac	93	+ 1	2.6	37.3
398½	282½	Majedie†	360		2.4	54.7
436½	355	Merchants	410½	- 1½	4.3	27.6
178	132	Mercury Euro Pvl	167	- ½	2.0	39.9
98	50½	Mercury Em Wt	89½	+ ½		
74½	56½	Mercury World	57	- ½	1.8	82.4
830	677½	Monks Inv Tst	784	- 1½	1.6	
209½	180	Morg Gren Inc	191½	- ½	4.6	26.8
106½	80½	Morg Wts	93			
82	62	Morg Lan Amer	67½	+ ½	0.7	
32½	18½	Morg Wts	21½	+ ½		
142½	110½	Murray Enit	134	- ½	2.9	45.9
29½	10	Murray Ent Wts	21			
71	49½	Murray Emg Eco	52½		1.3	64.7
11½	4½	Murray Em Ec Wt	6½			
538	448	Murray Incmet	502	- 3	3.6	35.9
505	431½	Murray Intl	466½	- 1	3.8	30.9
217½	205½	Murray S/C DP	213½			
395	270	Murray S/C Cap	361½	- 1		
64½	52½	Murray S/C Inct	55		28.0	4.4
5150	4350	Murray S/C Ulst	4900		3.1	39.0
434½	340	Murray Small	376	+ ½	2.1	
416	379½	Murray Venit	393		4.8	
289½	271½	Nalwest Enl	286½		2.2	34.2
5½	2½	Newmarket	2½			
56½	33½	Pacific Assets	35		1.4	76.0
135½	83	Perpetual Euro	127½	+ 1	0.4	
166½	125	Perp Inc Gth†	133½		3.8	
37	26½	Perpetual Jap	30½	+ 1		
424½	322½	Perpl Uk Sm Co	393½		2.2	50.2
£200½	£168	Personal Assets	£197½		1.6	55.5
159	130½	Prolific Inc	144		3.7	30.9
369½	270	RIT Cap Part	354	- 2½	0.7	
558½	516½	Robeco	531½	+ 1½	2.0	61.4
566	524	Rolinco	539½	+ 1½	0.8	
58½	33½	Schrd Asia Pac	38½	+ ½	1.8	
73	51	Schrod Emg Cnl	55	+ ½		
165½	142	Schrod Inc Gwtht	154½		3.7	27.8
61½	43	Schrod Jap Gwth	49	+ 1½		
262½	141½	Schrod Korea	142½			
93½	43½	Schrod Split Cap	72½	- 1		
135	114½	Schrod Split Inct	127		8.5	15.2
160	154½	Schrod Split Zero	157			
179½	142	Schrod UK Gwth	159	- ½	2.9	
190½	165½	Schrod Vent Ind	182		1.2	
385½	311	Scott	370	+ 1	2.1	56.9
233	183½	Scot American†	229½		3.0	38.9
144½	91½	Scot Asian	104	+ 2		
137½	118½	Scot Eastern	131	- 1½	1.9	51.1
398½	316½	Scot Mtget	370½	- 2	1.8	61.8
105½	100½	Scot Nall Tst†	104½	+ ½	11.6	11.0
153	119½	Scot Valuet	147	- ½	1.7	30.8
2755	2168½	Second Allnce	2638½	- 6½	2.8	49.4
133½	112½	Secs Tst of Scott	123½	- 1½	3.9	30.3
207	149½	Shires Smirt	193	- 1	4.0	30.4
183½	133½	Smaller Cos	171	- 1	2.4	61.2
429	353	St Andrew Inv	384		3.2	38.6
607½	484	Temple Bar	587½	-	4.1	28.8
103½	82½	Throgmorton	93	- ½	3.2	41.0
128½	94	Tipton Emg Mkt	99½	- 1	1.4	58.0
266	167½	TR Euro Growth	253	- ½	0.4	
50½	44½	TR Property	48½		3.0	
412½	374	TR Tech Inv#	400		11.9	32.0
384	273	Turkey Tructt#	336½		1.3	
169½	146½	Undervalued Asst	159½	- 1	1.8	40.0
167	152	Value Inc Tst	162½		3.7	30.7
138½	102½	Value Realt	129½	+ ½	1.2	
56	40½	Warrants & Val	53	- ½		
110½	87½	Wigmore	103		0.8	
396	310½	Witan	375½	+ ½	2.3	46.4
74½	65½	Yeoman Inc	68½			4.3
295	133½	Fund Dual Cp	228½	- 4		
69½	38½	Fulcrum Cap	56½	- ½		
22½	12½	Fulcrum Inct	12½		64.8	1.2
195	188	Fulcrum Zero	195½			
335	270½	Gartmore Bril	331½		3.4	
347½	242½	Gartmore Euro	332	+ 1	0.5	
158	110	Gartmore Sent	150	- 1	8.2	14.9
482½	345½	Gtmore Smir Cos	429½	- ½	1.7	83.4
88½	52½	Geared Inc Ord	73½		7.6	
80	61½	Geared Inc Inc	57½		8.6	
108	101	Geared Inc D Pf	108			
103	59	Gov Asn Sm Cos	68	+ 1	1.8	
82½	65	Gov Emg Mks	70½		0.7	
215	151½	Govett Am Smir	205	+ 1½		
97½	81½	Govett High Inct	92½		7.5	
108½	72	Govett Oriental†	75½	+ ½	1.2	
489	379½	Govett Strategic	457	- 2	2.1	43.2
35½	19½	Gresham House	30½		1.5	2.3
147½	119	GT Inc Growth†	137	- 2	3.1	30.2
180½	130	GT Japan	143	+ 5½	0.3	
156½	114½	Gwin Ft Ex Inct	148		7.0	
76	61	Henderson Am Cp	72½	-		
122½	115½	Henderson Am In	122		8.1	13.2
43½	28	Henderson Am Cp	40			
360	281½	Hend Elec Gen	344½		1.4	
132½	84	Hend Far East†	94	+ 2	9.0	15.4
580	452	Hend Emlrand	570		1.7	71.5
173	151½	Hend High Inct	171	+ 1½	4.9	23.3
42½	30½	Hend Jap Smir	35½	+ ½		
300	219	Hend Smir	277½	+ ½	1.8	59.9
628½	495	Hend Strata	602	+ 2½	0.1	
69½	44	Hend TR Pac	47½	- ½	0.7	68.6
120½	88½	Hend Tech	116	+ 1		
203	135½	Herald	193½	+ 1	0.5	
132½	105½	High Income Tt	131	- ½	6.5	18.5
174½	140	H Gowett Smrt	165½	- ½	2.8	43.2
196½	139½	HiS UK Smirt	185		2.0	63.0
214½	180	Inv Cap	195	- ½	3.8	39.4
97	59	Intl Biotech	59½			
20	14	Intl Biotec Wts	16			
59½	34½	INVESCO Asbt	40½	+ ½	2.0	
217½	175½	INVESCO Eng Inct	196½		0.9	61.9
36½	25½	INVESCO Jap Dis	29½	+ 1		
45½	25½	INVESCO Korea	28½			
33½	22½	INVESCO Tokyo	25	+ 1		
107½	83½	JF Fleng Jap	93½	+ 2½		
204½	135	J Fry Euro U	185½		3.8	
123½	65½	J Fry UIT▼	122	+ 1	5.8	14.5

LEISURE & HOTELS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
29½	11	ABI Leis#	13½		15.1	
543½	405½	Airtours†	451	- 1½	1.9	23.7
38	23½	Ald Leis	26	- ½	5.1	7.9
21	16	Arena Leis	20½			40.6
157½	115	BS Group†	140		4.5	
135	110	Baldwin	130		3.8	18.8
120	82	Bluebird Toys	114½		10.4	10.5
800	575	Boosey Hwks	810		2.0	24.3
35½	27½	Bunstone	32		9.1	7.5
159½	75½	Capital Corpn	78½		8.2	8.8
104½	55	Chiveden	100		2.5	22.7
109½	70½	Clubhaus	86½	- 1		25.6
305	165	ENIC	166	- 5½	0.4	
316	223	Eurocamp	246	- 5½	8.1	8.5
109½	67	Euro Disney	107½			
146½	120½	Euro Leisure	133½	- 5½	4.0	8.5
175	100	First Choice	155½	- 12	2.3	21.2
437½	268½	First Leisure	349½	- 7	3.3	18.4
159½	110½	Friendly Hotelst	150½		4.9	12.9
1217	837	Granada†	1102	- 29	1.7	30.0
51½	38½	Hi-Tec Sports	42½		5.9	8.2
389	207½	Holmes Place	240½	+ 18	1.5	28.8
262½	185½	Hornby	230		3.5	11.2
373	309	Hornbyt	317½	- 10	4.4	18.2
330	148	Jarvis Hotels	170½	- 1	3.4	10.0
569½	351½	Jurys Hotel	501½	- 15½	1.6	24.0
37½	24½	Kunick†	34	+ 1	3.1	15.5
370	260	Ladbroke	329	- 1½	2.3	24.0
328½	149½	London Clubst	157½	- 2	5.5	11.6
249½	182½	Macdonald Hotel	211	- 6½	3.0	
161½	123½	Man Utd	158½	+ 1½	1.3	25.4
59½	33½	Mandarin Ornt	34½	- ½	6.1	7.4
620½	418½	Millennium & Cop	538	- 1½	2.0	20.8
1½	0½	Millwall Hldgs	1			
102½	72½	Newcastle Utd	74½	+ 1	2.7	8.0
300	172½	Northern	175	+ 1½	2.9	21.4
76½	50½	Prism Leisure	51½		16.6	3.5
30	18½	Queensborough†	25		2.0	9.7
15½	12½	Queens Moat	38½	- ½		8.5
421	283½	Rank Grp	329	- 2½	6.8	12.8
49	38½	Regal Hotel	41½		3.8	8.0
84½	50½	Ryan Hotels IE†	72½	+ 1	3.3	
1900	1175	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1500		1.8	24.6
51½	26½	Sheffield United	27½			
42	26½	MM	29	+ 1½	3.2	
1175	706½	Mirorco	706½	- 8½	5.4	8.8
105	65	Montagle	80		5.3	
73½	46½	Normandy	49	+ ½	4.5	11.0
177½	114½	North	123½	+ ½	3.9	18.2
60	22½	Peteling Tin	24½	- 3	1.8	
111	48½	RBC	59½	+ 1	6.2	3.3
170	80	RJB	121		20.7	1.5
29½	22½	Racewood	23½		17.8	5.0
196½	77½	Randfontein	128½	- ½	4.0	15.8
121½	82½	Reunion Mng	70½			
898	641	Rio Tinto	675	- 15	4.7	12.7
871	690½	Rio Tinto Ltd	712½	- 1½	3.8	18.3
8½	3½	St Barbara				
191	121½	St Helena	127½	+ 9½	21.6	3.1
192½	138½	Sons Gwalia	148½	+ 9½	6.5	11.1
130½	74½	Siben Pacific	74½	- 4½		
1328½	783½	Southvaal	898½	+ 8½	11.3	8.8
239½	162½	WMC	180½	+ 1½	2.5	23.8
27	12	Wankie Col Z	12½		5.6	
47	29½	Water Hall	32½	+ ½		
443	361½	Watts Blake†	408		5.4	12.1
1759½	975	Western Deep	1178½	+ 6½	5.9	
149	91½	Zambia Copper	91½	+ ½		

MEDIA

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
252½	172½	Sinclair (Wm)	174½	- 38½	6.5	8.4
80½	63½	Southampton	68½		1.8	
143½	91	Staic	121½	- 3	2.8	16.0
298½	250½	Stanley Leisure	288½	- ½	1.8	20.4
10	4	Tawden	9	+ 1½		
346	346	Tangong#	346		1.3	
250½	157	Thistle Hotels	216	- 2	2.4	17.8
200	172½	Thomson Travel	185	- 4	1.9	22.5
76½	58½	Tollenton Hor	66½		1.9	17.6
212½	135½	Vardon	178½	- ½	1.7	21.6
412½	302½	Wembley	406½	+ ½	0.9	10.1
162½	116½	Zetters Gp	124½	- 9	10.5	7.2
445	324	Abbott Mead	426	- 8	1.9	32.7
176½	145½	Ascene	145½		7.3	15.2
100½	84½	Argus Bot	96½		0.7	26.6
154	70	Aspen Grp	90		3.5	
195	145½	Atlantic Telecom	146½	+ 1		
232	185	Barbour Index	230		5.5	26.3
3½	0½	Boxtale	1½	+ ½		
400	320	Bca (A&C)†	382½		4.6	15.3
370½	257½	Border TV	330½	+ 4½	2.6	25.4
515	410	Bristol†	495		4.3	12.1
310½	129½	Brit Allcott	251½	- 7	0.9	36.2
594	333	BSkyB	430½	- 2½	1.7	27.4
747½	497	Capital Radio†	708½	-	2.5	22.2
582	408	Carlton Comms	535	- 10	3.0	15.8
402½	145	Character Grp†	360½	- 9½	1.6	15.0
63	48	Chime Comms	62½		3.8	17.1
787½	602½	Chrysalis	787½		0.4	
92½	77	City of Lon†	82½		9.3	12.2
106½	83½	Copyright Proms	105½			53.6
137	88	Cordiant Commst	132½	- ½	0.9	22.3
186½	143½	Creative Pub†	170½		5.5	
3184½	2084½	Daily Mail†	2809½	+ 16½	1.1	26.8
3250	2000	Daily Mail 'A'†	2718½	- 6½	1.1	25.9
206½	129½	Dialog	152½	- 5		
267	203	Dorling Kind	211	- 6½	2.7	58.3
485	265½	Dudley Jenkins	455	+ 35	1.4	32.5
1258	905	EMAP†	1212	- 17	1.5	26.5
685	420	EMI	524	- 1	3.1	26.0
1117½	877½	Elsevier	904½	- 6½	2.8	72.2
2412½	1495	Euromoney Pbl	2392½		2.8	24.1
69	58½	Facia	68½		1.3	12.2
564	468	Flextech	552½	- 6		
245	155½	GWR Grp	224		1.9	
395	197½	Gearhouse Group	205	+ 5	4.4	10.3
55½	34½	Goodhead	46½	- ½	1.3	15.3
545	290	HIT Enter	545		0.2	68.9
297½	262½	Haynes Pub	275	- 7½	5.1	11.5
14½	9½	Highbury Hse	11½			79.6
280	204	Hodder H'line	266		3.4	16.9
580	400	Home Counts	560		1.3	34.9
537	365	IBC	501	+ 1	2.6	16.5
93½	70½	ITE Group	74	- 2		
30½	18½	Inceptor	27½		1.6	12.0
397½	322½	Independent	332½	- 14	2.5	22.6
59½	40½	Int Public Rel	50	+ ½	4.1	10.4
162	122	Interaurope	123½		4.8	9.0
250	196½	Johnson Press	218	+ 1½	1.7	17.0
356½	316½	LLP Group	316½		1.8	25.8
60	30	Lopex	54½		2.3	11.6
472½	305	Maiden	455		1.6	25.1
38½	14½	MediaKey	18½	+ 2½	8.1	7.0
1325	940	Metal Bulletin	1325		2.2	33.4
249	170	Mirror Gp	228	- 5	2.8	16.7
1190	713	More Gp	1105½		1.9	23.3
489½	333	News Corp	489½	+ 47	0.2	22.5
424½	292½	News Corp Pref	424½	+ 40½	0.7	
337½	252½	Newsquest	324	+ 3½	2.1	18.2
15½	11½	Osprey Comms	12½			
1230	705	Pearson	1088	- 2	2.2	31.4
61½	34½	Princedin	41½	- 2		
1145	867½	Portsmth Sundt	1122½		2.0	
115½	51½	Quarto	88½		5.7	13.4
730	448½	Reed Int	542	- 12	3.4	26.5
770	508½	Reuters	685	- 13	2.4	25.6
185	100½	Saatchi	166	- 2½	0.9	
830	651	Scot Med	804	- 5	3.5	17.8
549	375	Scott Radiot	547½		2.3	19.9
14½	6½	Sleepy Kids	11			
550	448	Southnewst	515	- 5	2.3	17.6
25½	13½	Sterling Pub	13½	- 1	3.1	5.3
79½	50½	Taurus	80½	- 1		
145½	85½	Taylor Nelsont	121½	+ ½	1.0	37.9
270	204	Television Cp	239	- 1	2.0	16.9
269½	163½	Tempus Gp	251½		1.4	27.2
1920	1549½	Thomson Corp	1799½	+ 23	2.6	38.0
573	483½	Trinity	485½	- 6	3.4	15.4
245	177	Ulster TV	177	- 5½	4.0	15.6
953	630	United News†	838	- 11	2.9	18.3
115½	62½	VCI	64	- 1½	15.4	4.7
127½	75½	VIR	108½		5.5	7.8
438½	340	WPP†	392½	+ ½	0.5	25.0
203½	123½	Wilmington†	175½		1.0	31.5

MINING

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3440½	2290½	Ang Am Coal	2575	+ 12½	5.5	7.9
3553½	1953½	Ang Am	2088½	+ 103½	3.5	
3269½	2062½	Ang Am Gold	2187½	+ 125	5.5	18.3
971½	634½	Anglo Am Plat	668½	+ 21½	3.4	20.9
3362½	2040½	Anglogold	2358½	+ 131½	7.8	13.1
22½	14½	Anglo Pac Grp	14½			
31½	20½	Arcon Intl	23			
645½	411½	Ashanti	458½	- 4	2.6	15.3
66½	28	Ashton	31½	+ 3½	4.7	
112	41½	Avocet	42½			
187½	117	Billiton	121½		4.9	10.1
35	31½	Bisichi	31½		3.7	10.3
20½	13	Bougainville	14	+ ½		
298½	193	Central Pacific	193	- 8		
50	21½	Cons Murchison	30½	+ ½		0.9
1608½	1049½	De Beers	1059½	+ 16½	4.6	7.2
426½	293½	Driefontein	312½	+ 18½	3.4	11.7
225½	88	Durban	132½	+ 9½		
82½	54	E Rand Gold	62	+ 4	23.0	4.4
18½	10½	E Rand Prop	13½	+ ½		22.5
283	128½	Elandsrand	186½	+ 1	7.9	12.8
273½	207	Eng China Cl	207	- 8	7.9	8.8
168½	92	Exlador	132½	+ 4	10.0	
385½	92	FS Cons	239½	+ 1½	12.4	8.1
71½	17	FS Dev	20½	- 2		
1109½	675	GFSA	890½	+ 6½	3.4	16.4
148½	86½	Gencor	93	+ 6	3.6	7.0
145½	86½	Gold Fields Prop	97½	+ 1½	6.8	12.2
41	14½	Greenwich R 'A'	20½	- 2		
356½	112½	Harmony	249½	+ 12½		7.8
793½	443½	Impala Plat	512½	+ 16½	2.8	12.0
18½	9½	Kenmare Res	10			
26½	14	Kidston	16½	+ ½		
389	239½	Lonrho	281	+ 4½	7.7	10.8
11½	4½	Meekatharra	6	+ ½		

OIL & GAS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
221½	155½	Abbot Group†	218½		1.5	27.2
32½	19½	Alliance Res#	32½			
64½	48½	Amlime	49½			
77	50½	Aus Oil & Gas	67½	+ 4½	2.6	19.2
27½	8½	Aviva Pet	10			
430	298½	Br Borneo	298½	- 16½	1.2	53.5
391	265	BG†	349½	- 1½	2.9	33.0
872	708½	Br Petroleum†	874	- 10	3.2	22.5
1½	0½	Bula Resources	1½			
1340	895	Burmah Castrl	1070	+ 1	3.8	15.7
496½	261½	Cairn Energy	273	+ 11½		49.4
119	89	Cardrica	101	- 1		
14½	6	Coplex Res	6½			
22½	15½	Dana Pet	16			
72½	35½	Dragon Oil	40½			
28½	19	Edin Oil & Gs	22		1.7	18.0
10	5½	Emerald Energy	6½			
697	510	Enterprise	545		4.0	38.6
14½	7½	Fortune	7½			29.6
294½	209½	Hardy Oil▲	209½	- 7	0.6	44.1
47½	31½	JKX Oil & Gas	36½	- ½		
432	201	KBC Adv Tech	205	+ 4	2.0	18.1
305	229	LASMO	240	- 4	1.0	64.4
42½	32½	Lasmo Units	34		24.8	
63	58½	Monument	58½	- 2		21.0
3118½	2612½	Norsk Hydro	2837½	- 16½	2.2	18.7
133½	87½	Oil Search	90½	+ 3½		
58½	33½	Pelmz	35	+ ½		
87½	37	Premier	42½	+ 2½	1.8	9.1
58	28½	Ptawnerall Rs	29½			
445½	331	Ranger	440½	- 3	4.4	7.9
3618½	3031½	Royal Dutch Fl	3321½	- 6½	2.8	25.6

OTHER FINANCIAL

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
5143½	3971½	Schlumberger	4121½	+ 100	1.1	
499½	385	Shell	422		3.4	23.7
370½	218	SOCO Intl	218½			23.6
8187½	5843½	Total	7831½	+ 90½	1.7	
332½	187½	XCL	187½			
134	87½	Aberdeen Asset	119½		4.2	45.1
775	457	AMVESCAP†	585	- 17	1.2	26.8
229½	120½	BWD	210		4.3	18.9
55½	42½	Berry Birch Noble	44½		5.6	
294	240	Bolech Inv	255			
443	245½	Brewin Dolphin	410	- 7½	2.3	19.9
975	725	Caledonia†	911½	- 1	2.8	27.1
4500	2800	Cazenove	4500	+ 500	1.0	10.3
693	388½	Cattles	661½	+ 21½	2.0	30.1
57½	37½	Charcle	52½	+ 5	3.7	
933	526½	Close Bros	615	+ 5½	2.0	23.7
612	433	EFM	528		5.4	13.9
32½	20	Eeo	27		4.5	
42½	15½	Fimes Incy	40		2.0	22.5
219½	197	Friends Ivory Sime	202	- 3	4.5	17.9
465½	332	Generic	406½	- 1½	5.2	12.4
194	154½	Hambros	179½		1.8	64.8
272½	145½	Hitachi Cred	265	- 1½	2.6	
195	145	Investment Co	195		2.9	
177½	102½	Jardine Chal	113½	- 2½	7.6	8.7
164½	111½	Jordan Fn	142		3.5	
620	570	Leopold J	615		4.1	27.0
619½	422½	Liberty Int	526	+ 6	4.2	23.1
476½	251	Lon Forfaiting	373½		5.6	9.1
253½	169½	London Pacific	235½		2.4	9.5
160	110½	Lon Scot Bnt	117		3.7	19.9
358½	229½	Man ED & F	307½		4.9	11.8
1945	1435½	M & G	1617½	- 15	2.3	24.1
232	182½	Paragon	226½	- 10	1.5	9.0
4537½	2682½	Perpetual†	4043½		2.1	24.8
1095	785	Provident	940	+ 7	2.7	36.1
647½	400	Ratisone Bro	605		2.9	24.3
69	54½	Rea Brothers	58½		2.1	11.7
94½	49½	Rotand Tst	55½	- ½	3.9	12.5
107½	77	SEC Group	91	- ½	7.0	23.5
392	292	S & U	296		8.1	8.8
2025	1153½	Schroders▼	1545	- 70	1.2	26.5
1775	1016½	Schroders N/V▼	1328	- 82	1.4	22.8
795	610	Secure Tst	762½		3.8	15.4
195½	135½	Singer & Fried	161	- 1	4.2	11.7
67½	48½	Towry Law	58½			
5½	3½	Tno Hldgs	5½			
81½	61½	Unicn	76			
90½	45½	Versailles Grpt	90½	+ 2	0.6	54.5
437½	397½	Wictrex	432½		4.1	17.5

PHARMACEUTICALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
150	30	Brit Biotech	36½	- ½		
300	240	Cantab Pharms	241½	- 10		
387½	272½	Celltech	312½	- 6½		
356½	220	Chiroscience	277½	- 6		
201	70	Core Group	71			
305	92½	Cortecs	93½			
1983	1650	Glaxo Well	1799	- 43	2.2	39.1
135	75	ML Laboratories	80			
185	140	Medeva	171	- 1	3.2	8.0
260	185	Oxford Molecular	187½	- 5		
310	222	Peptide Thera	228	+ 3		
114½	47½	Phytopharm	100			
513½	194½	Powderject	435	- 20		
89½	42	Proteus Intl	43	- 1		
72	59	Rancom (Wm)	61		5.3	12.3
181½	124½	Quadrant Health	136			
394½	260	Scotia	326½			
446½	285½	Shire Pharms	421½	+ 10½		
103½	47½	SkyePharma	66			
889	618	SmithKline†	731½	- 3½	1.5	35.4
223	140	Therp Anti Inc	142½			
652½	307½	Vanguard	320	+ 2½		
182	37½	Vanguard Wts	48½	+ 1½		
245	121	Xenova	130	+ 5		
2850	2114	Zeneca	2572	- 14	1.9	33.4

PRINTING & PAPER

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
130	82	AG Holdings†	128	+ 39½	6.1	18.9
645	520	APL†	605		2.6	16.4
142	68½	App Holo	109½	- 4½		51.7
255	145½	Arjo Wiggins	203	+ 3	3.9	10.9
488½	433½	Bemrose	435	- 1½	4.7	11.5
193½	144½	Blagden	159½	- ½	2.3	10.3
3571½	2578½	Bowater Inc	2840½	+ 9½		
313½	233½	Bowater Intl	256½		1.6	16.0
527	421½	Br Polythene	422½	- 10	5.9	10.3
348½	218½	Bunzl†	282	- 4	2.4	18.1
168½	118½	Capital Inds	150	+ 1	5.1	15.4
251½	200½	Dropper (Jmes)	206½		3.1	
389	288½	De La Rue†	289½	- ½	4.6	11.5
274½	252½	Delphi Pack	260½		3.9	12.3
105	70	Ferguson Intl	82	+ 3	6.9	
197½	145½	Filota	155	+ ½	3.3	16.2
80½	47½	Inversh	51		14.7	27.6
229½	180½	Jarvis Porter†	180½		5.4	
21	17½	LIBERtabtica	18½		4.1	
420	284	Low & Bonar	354	- 1	4.7	11.9
25½	11	Lowe (Robert)	12		4.5	4.5
87½	65½	MY Holdings	86½		4.0	11.6
177½	125½	Macfarlane	132		4.3	11.3
347½	213½	Photobition	279	- 14½	8.6	46.3
187½	140½	Plysu†	179		5.9	12.3
34	25	Porter Chadbm	26½	+ ½	4.3	
320½	229	REXAM†	262½		5.8	10.7
647½	485	St Ives Gp	515½		2.9	15.4
410	222½	Sappi	223½	+ 1	3.2	
68½	30	Security & General	24½	+ ½		
122½	32½	Sidlaw†	111½		2.8	12.8
225½	165½	Smith David	190½	- 5	5.3	11.8
240	156	Smurfit (Jef)	181	+ ½	2.5	
150	105	Sprect	108	- 1	3.8	10.7
200½	133½	Tinsley Robor	183½	- 5	2.3	
43½	18	Wace	29	+ 1		
307½	247½	Waddington	303½		4.8	11.6
320½	223	Wyndeham	292½		2.7	15.2

PROPERTY

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
116½	81	Allied Lon†	95½		5.3	6.9
195	155½	Asda†	164½	- 3	2.0	24.5
36½	28½	Asriquity Grpt	31½		0.8	52.7
180½	135½	Ashbeme Hldgs	165	- 2½	3.8	35.5
278½	243½	Benchmark	258½		2.3	24.8
288½	253½	Billon†	263½		5.2	18.2
177½	149	Birkby	159½		7.1	10.2
5½	3	Bolton Gp	3½			
84	53½	Boome Estt	58	- ½	2.6	79.0
322½	251	Bradford	251	- 2½	4.6	16.5
825	600	Br Land†	615½	- 31½	1.9	33.8
255	213	Brixton	244	- 1	4.8	18.5
132	100	Burford	104½	- 2	3.8	36.3
148	132	CLS Hldgs	143½		5.0	17.2
318½	246½	Cap & Regal	274½	- ½	1.6	26.8
480	384½	Cap Shop Ctrs	403½	+ 3½	2.9	28.4
355½	263½	Cardiff Propt	353½	+ 6	1.1	48.9
19	9½	Carlisle	15	- ½		61.9
13½	6½	Cattley Intl	7½			
418½	314½	Chelsfield	315	+ ½	1.3	37.0
687½	590	Chesterfield†	602½		2.8	32.0
37	18	Chesterton Int	23½	+ 6		
166½	138½	City North	139½		2.0	40.8
53½	30½	City Site Ests	31½			
107	80	Cleveland Tst†	91½		8.5	17.0
98½	82½	CMC Propt	87½		4.7	8.1
263½	185½	Compco	261½		2.2	
1710	1605	Daejan	1710		3.0	16.4
21	10½	Dares Estates	10½			
128½	95½	Debenham Tewson	105		4.3	
163½	69½	Delancey Ests	125½	- 2	1.5	25.6
232½	192½	Dencora†	232		2.6	14.4
588	552½	Derwent Hldgs	565½		1.5	39.2
355	288½	Development Sect	304½		1.2	6.9
260½	172½	Edge Properties	216½	- 1		33.1
430	410	Estates Agency	425		5.4	19.3
91½	75½	Estates Gen	84½	- 1	1.2	21.8
178½	139½	Evans Of Leedst	155	- 1½	3.0	21.0
42½	36½	Fletcher King	39		8.4	12.9
71½	61½	Folkes Group†	68½		3.8	6.7
71½	57½	Folkes Group nvt	68½		3.8	6.7
540	461	Frogmore	477½	- 6	5.3	12.5
19	14½	Golden Land Inv	18			
370	320	Grainger†	322	- 1	3.0	15.5
236	237½	Gt Portland†	249	- 5	4.5	28.0
200½	159	Grantchester†	172½		1.0	50.3
252½	214½	Greycoat†	222½	- 2	0.8	35.8
152	104½	Hamzco Cntyw	117	- 8	3.2	7.5
537½	465½	Hammerson	488½	- 2½	3.0	28.8
33½	22	Hampton Trust	22½	-		
692½	555	Helical Bar†	670		1.7	
50	44½	Hemingway	45		1.7	18.7
130½	69½	HK Land	75	+ 1½	9.6	8.0
345	200	Jermyn	345		2.2	
183½	94	LSHT	174		3.2	11.2
113½	84½	Lands Imp	101½		5.8	
1190	822½	Land Sect	926½	- 8½	3.8	25.0
36½	31	Lon & Assoct	32½		3.5	13.5
141½	118½	Lon Merch Sect	131		5.1	5.8
650	509½	MEPC†	527	- 3	3.6	21.2
119½	89½	MWB Group	108½		4.3	
152	132	McKay Secs	142		3.8	20.0
97½	65½	Merkale Mre	95½	- 2	2.9	8.6
368	270	Milner Est	344	- 3½	2.5	16.5
245½	202½	Minerva	244½	+ 1½	0.8	
36½	25	Moorfield Est	33		2.1	37.2
1900	1681½	Mountview†	1800		3.3	
169	148	Mucklow (A&J)†	155½	- 1	5.8	17.3
48	31	OEM	40			79.0
74½	52½	ORB	59½			25.9
41½	31½	Baws Propt	36		1.9	24.3
727½	635	Peel	717½	+ 6	1.5	
353	277	Pillar Propt	324	- 1½	2.2	60.7
13½	7	Probus Estates	8			
204½	179	Quintain	179	- ½	2.8	
29½	24	Ragont	29½		6.3	
35	26	Regalian	26		5.2	11.7
202½	157½	Rugby Est	170	+ ½	1.9	15.3
81½	67½	St Modwen Prp	73½	- 1	5.1	8.9
73	58	Saville Grdn	66½	+ ½	5.6	25.2
149	111½	Savills	136½	- 2	3.4	8.5
113	92	Scot Mtc	98	- ½	4.0	17.2
246	217	Shaftesbury†	220½	- 1½	1.3	51.6
414½	342½	Slough Estates	344½	- 6	3.0	23.2
287½	242½	Smart (J)†	262½		4.7	9.8
130½	93	TBH	126½	- ½	1.7	
203½	176½	Tops Ests	192½		1.5	
118	94½	Town Centre†	95		5.1	11.9
203½	149½	Trafford Park	195½	- 2	2.6	21.3
103½	87½	UK Land	97	- ½	4.3	
278½	231½	Warner	263½		6.3	17.2
283	255	Warnford	263		3.8	16.0
110½	92½	Wates▲	97			44.8
453½	345½	Workspace Grpt	438½		4.8	

RETAILERS, FOOD

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
227½	173	ASDA Group	205½	- 2	2.2	19.6
78½	36	Budgens	74½		2.4	15.2
80½	55½	Dairy Farm Intl	64½	+ 1½	5.6	11.9
212½	157	Farepak	173½		3.7	12.5
43½	35½	Fitzwilton	41½		5.9	
184	95	Fyffes†	148	- 1	1.8	17.3
2637½	1995	Greggs	2547½		1.8	21.0
261	119	Iceland Group	209	- 6½	3.2	14.1
301½	227½	Morrison (W)	300½	- ½	0.9	24.1
69	38	Park Foods	56½		6.8	
404½	330	Safeway†	392½	+ 1½	4.5	16.5
580½	370	Sainsbury Jt	534	- 12	3.3	22.7
409½	207½	Somerfield	392½	+ 2½	3.5	13.1
327½	194½	T & S Stores	327½	+ ½	3.2	17.5
620	495	Tesco†	585	- 2½	2.5	22.7
293½	256½	Thorntons	267½		2.8	21.2
626	505	Watson& Philip†	575	- 1½	4.2	15.5

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
303½	230½	Alexon	230½	- 2		9.5
266	192½	Alldays	199	- 1½	5.4	3.6
180	70½	Allied Carpets	77½	+ 1	12.5	6.0
41½	19½	Ashley (Laura)	28			
216½	164½	Austin Reed†	184		5.1	10.5
172½	147½	Eccle	155		4.0	17.0
192½	157	Brown LOT	175	- ½	2.0	11.4
155½	119½	Burtons	125	- ½		
498½	250	Bricks Leis	421½	- 4	3.0	6.1
146	109	Body Shop†	130	- ½	5.4	10.3
1050	602	Boots†	995	- 9	2.5	33.3
61	30½	Brown & Jackson				
460	317½	Brown (N)	382	+ 10½	2.5	17.5
505	260	Carpetright	361	- 10	2.1	
335	227	Charles Inv	296	- 1	1.7	30
42½	29	Church	37½		5.5	12.5
147½	95½	Clinton Cards	139			12.4
272½	189½	Courts Grp	211½		1.1	15.4
457½	332½	Courts Furnish	362½	- 12½	1.5	13.4
433	313½	Debenhams†	378½	- 11½	8.4	9.0
629	459	Dixons Grp	518½	- 9½	1.8	13.8
99½	45½	Etec Boutique	56½	- 6	2.9	14.3
4	3	ERA Co	4			27.6
78½	30½	Essex Fum	38½			
229	145	Fabulous Bd	161½	- 5	12.5	8.9
210½	162½	Fine Art Devt	200	- 2½	0.2	15.6
366½	203½	Feed Earn	341		1.2	21.1
582½	445½	Flying Flo Us	585	- 7½	1.6	
137½	95½	Formminster	106½		4.0	9.0
465	355	French Conn†	387½		1.0	17.7
45½	34½	Gever	39½		3.6	24.6
333½	217½	Goldsmiths Grp	272½		3.7	13.3
147	122½	Grampian Hspt	125½		1.2	12.1
318	700	GUS	790	- 6	1.2	17.9
297½	214	Hardys	214	- 22	6.4	3.7
116½	75	Hampden Grp	94½		3.8	9.1
343½	237½	Harveys Furn	233½	- 5	3.7	24.2
221½	144½	Hse of Fraser†	175½			
171½	117½	Hughes (TJ)	170	- 4½	3.9	19.5
823½	467½	JJB Sports†	467½	- 21½	2.5	16.5
1301	709½	Kingfisher†	965	- 20	1.8	13.2
356	237½	Liberty	237½	- 47½	3.0	17.5
54½	25½	Lunegate	42½		1.4	
141	56	MFI	63	+ 2½	10.2	9.0
654	489	Marks Spencer†	545½	- 4½	3.3	19.7
57	35½	Merchant Retail†	43½		1.4	10.3
291½	216½	Moss Bros	241½		3.1	15.6
860	474	Next†	515	- 6	4.4	13.6
33½	24½	Owen (G)	29½			
512½	382½	Dinkame Intl	445		5.0	14.2
85	56½	Partners	36½	- 1	5.3	
94½	79½	Partridge Fine	91½		7.2	7.1
29½	25½	QS Hldgs	27½			
320	223	Reckitts	224	- 1½	6.6	9.3
143½	95½	Saxe Group†	126	- 3	7.0	13.6
66½	46½	Searcy	53½	+ ½	7.4	
52½	29	Signet Group	42½	- ½		9.5
587½	389½	Smith WH	533	- 2½	3.7	
1310	1050	Sotheby's	1270		1.9	
294	216	Storehouse†	251	+ 1	4.5	11.8
92	57½	Stylo	59½		10.6	
242	140½	Thorn	230	+ 19½	7.5	13.8
127½	69½	Tie Rack	81½		3.1	
3½	2½	Upton & South	2½	- ½		24.2
355½	261½	Vickers	282½	- 35	0.9	46.8
373½	220½	Wyevale	308½	- 1½	2.8	19.8

SUPPORT SERVICES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
947½	535	AEA Tech†	907½	- 8½	1.3	
350	210	Abacus Recruit	225	- 15	0.8	15.4
205½	115	Acorn	134½	+ 2½		
226½	152½	Aggreko	200	- 1½	2.4	26.8
122	68	Agma Ample†	95		7.0	11.7
53	32½	Alphameric	42	+ 1½		
79	47	Ante Grp	61	- ½		
593½	362½	Atkins WS	593½	+ 4½	1.7	
214½	160	BNB Res	172	- 4	5.5	10.3
790	507½	BPP	760		2.6	26.8
852½	637½	BTG	835		0.1	
48½	17½	Br Thornton	41½	- 1½		
132½	79½	Brooks Service	123½		4.0	13.5
957½	568½	Business Post	862½	+ 2½	2.1	33.6
2000	750½	CMG	1862½	+ 20	0.3	
493	335	CRT Gp	416½	- 2	1.3	57.9
972½	812½	Capita Gp	927½		1.6	11.6
551½	311½	Capita Group	515½		0.5	80.0
15½	6½	Chemex	9½		2.7	15.1
262	212½	Corp Services▼	238½	- 1	3.1	17.5
47	21½	Coutts Consult	30		0.4	
649	317½	DCS Gp	558½	- 11	0.5	37.4
352½	189	Danka Bs Syst	189	- 7	2.1	19.9
459½	302	Davis Service	392½	- 2½	3.6	21.5
830	580	Delphi	582½		1.5	20.8
1332½	682½	Diagonal	1300		0.2	
27½	18	Eurocopy	20½		12.2	4.1
102½	51½	EW Fact	100½		2.5	18.6
124½	51	Ef Data Pnt	94½		2.9	16.5
1732½	827½	FI Group	1532½	+ 2½	0.5	
578	409	Guardian IT	565	- 1		
455	337	Harvey Nash	406	- 5	7.4	30.5
1155	773	Hays	1005	- 15	1.2	34.9
58	51½	High-PointRndl	54½			
325½	255½	Hogg Robinson	271½	- ½	5.1	18.1
1257½	515	JBA Hidgst	610	- 10	1.0	57.2
330	232½	Johnson Srvce	304	- 2	5.2	11.6
69½	40½	Kalamazoo	52½		10.1	
927½	570	Kewill Sys	927½	+ 105	1.5	
24½	13½	Laser-Scan	18	+ 1		
551	317½	Lavendon	487	+ 1	1.0	31.7
2070	1147½	Logica	1937½	- 5	0.7	55.6
808½	505	Lorien	751½	- 2½	1.2	46.8
235½	120½	Lynx Group†	219	+ 1½	1.2	27.9
97	43½	MDIS	91½			
142½	77½	MMT Compt	1225	+ 5	1.2	32.3
164½	109½	MR Group	153½	- 4½	3.2	20.3
555	320	Macro 4	465		6.9	13.4
342½	142½	Marlborough Int	307½	+ 7½		55.7
82½	52½	Manfspore Abbey	81		1.0	24.3
721	420	Micro Focus	435			27.4
137½	55	Microgen	128½		4.9	17.1
3723	1825	Misys	3405	- 70	0.5	57.0
335	230½	MITIE Gp	308½	- 3½	0.9	33.8
53½	51½	Novo Group	53½		3.7	12.1
61½	41½	Omist	60½	+ 6½	3.3	13.8
780	495	PSD	560	- 12½	1.9	21.6
862½	635	Parity	785½	- 2	0.8	37.6
395	240	Pegasus	375	+ 17½	2.5	12.9
242½	145	Penna	229		1.2	11.7
352	151	Photo-Me	351	+ 9½	2.0	33.9
54½	35	Proudfoot	45		1.4	10.8
247½	160	RCO	185		10.4	32.9
332	218½	RPS Group	320½		1.9	26.4
53	25½	Radius	44½	+ 1	3.1	15.1
600	317½	Real Time	515		1.5	17.8
139½	79	Rebuct	139		1.9	
193	118½	Reed Executive	188	- 3	2.2	9.0
190	182	Reliance Sec	190		4.5	16.8
450	265	Rentokil Int	431	- 9	0.9	42.7
231½	152½	Ricardo Group	227½	- 1	3.6	28.6
578	402½	Robert Walters	418	- 1	1.2	19.3
516	260	Rolls & Nolan	267½			44.8
382½	297½	Royalblue	350		0.8	47.2
1805	825	Sage Gp	1690	- 10	0.2	66.7
160	74	Sanderson†	151	- 1	4.3	13.8
898	551	Select App	850	+ 3	0.5	36.4
760	368½	Serna Grp▼	705	- 30	0.3	72.1
1440	868	Serco Gp	1380	+ 1	0.6	57.8
198½	154½	Shanks & McEwan	180	- 1	3.0	19.8
915	520	Sherwd Intl	907½		0.7	38.2
74	44	Simon Grp	58	+ ½	1.4	15.6
61	33	Skeckley	37			
330½	181½	Skillsgroup	281	- 5½	1.9	25.8
125	103	Stat-Plus	115		12.3	11.4
275	182½	Superscope VR	203	- 9½		
135	85	Toner	127½		3.3	21.3
3750	2250	Tyco Intl	3650		0.2	
148½	88½	WSP Group	135½	- 1	2.6	18.8
225	171	Warner Howard	171	- 2½	8.8	7.6
332½	178	Waste Mgt Intl	329	+ 64		77.7
499½	332½	Waste Recyg	448½		0.7	41.3
278½	199	Whitehead Mann	257½		3.7	
97½	62½	White Young Grn	87		5.0	13.4
500	304	Williams	385	- 1	4.1	19.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
768	417½	BT	740	- 6	3.3	21.4
2480	614½	COLT Telecom	2402½	+ 42½		
765	467½	Cable Wireless	728	+ 6	1.7	32.9
618½	264½	Cable&Wire Comm	608½	+ 15		
937½	252½	Energis	912½	+ 10		
355	250	Euro Telecom	351½	+ 1½	1.1	
251	77½	General Cable	237	+ 2½		
137½	23	Ionica Group	40			
657	239½	Orange	635	- 5½		
518	286½	Securicor	488	+ 3	0.5	47.0
164	89½	TeleWest	141	- 11½		
790	298	Vodafone†	760½	- 1½	0.9	58.2

TRANSPORT

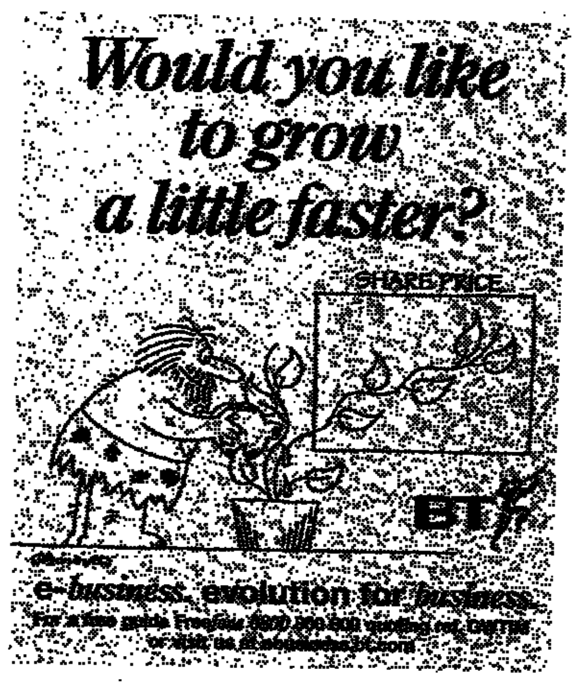
1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
440	210	Air London	405	+ 5	2.2	22.8
357	193½	All Nippon Airt	197½	+ 3½		
518	330½	Arriva	348½	+ 2½	4.8	9.9
386	282½	Assoc Br Ports	334	- 6	3.4	16.4
372	284½	Autologic	346½		2.7	
293½	169½	Avis Europe	270½	+ 1	1.4	26.9
731½	402½	BAA†	647	- 11	2.6	17.8
709	498	Br Airways†	648½	+ 3½	3.2	18.8
140½	90½	Clarkson (H)†	117½	- 7	4.3	13.3
192½	135½	Clydeport Ops	180½		3.6	
465½	317½	Dart	460		2.1	
82½	43½	Eurotunnel Uts	67½	+ ½		
451	221½	FirstGroup	410	- 4½	2.0	23.4
140	125	Fisher (James)	125		3.2	9.5
692	580	Forth Ports	645	- 2	2.8	15.7
92½	60	Frontline	70			
773½	510	Go-Ahead	710½		1.6	17.0
601½	480	Goode Durant	503½		2.6	14.9
498	305½	Helphire Grpt	492½	+ 5	0.3	44.6
1135	740	Irish-Cont	1000		0.6	21.4
95½	74½	Jacobs	85½	- ½	3.3	37.2
642½	490	Mersey Docks	569	- 5½	3.2	21.8
203	138½	NFC†	168	- 2½	3.9	17.4
1118½	675	Natl Express	968½	- 1	1.7	21.8
817½	562½	Ocean Group	756½	- 3	2.4	23.3
121½	92½	Ocean Wilson	115		4.8	7.3
971	650	P & O Dfd	863	+ 3	4.4	19.5
116½	107½	P & O 5½%†	109½	- ½	6.3	
1518	571½	Railtrack	1469	+ 1	2.1	23.5
130	88	Salvesen (C)	114	- 1½	8.3	11.9
49	36	Sescon	46½	- 1½	3.4	35.3
296½	244	Seascope Ship	249	- 2½	6.3	6.1
311½	180	Servicar	298½		2.8	19.2
1477½	765	Stagecoach	1275	- 13	1.0	29.0
626	547½	Tibbett & Britn	606	+ 1½	3.6	15.8
330½	251	TDG	297	- 4½	7.1	19.3
116½	76½	Ugland†	95		6.5	7.9
72½	38½	Utd Carriers	40		10.9	10.5

WATER

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
867	780	Anglian†	840	+ 7	5.8	9.4
335	285	East Surrey	292½		5.3	
1053½	807	Hyder†	941	+ 4½	5.6	9.7
128½	115½	Hyder Cm Prf†	120½		8.2	
775	660	Mid Kent Hdgs†	725		5.7	9.4
1085	665	Severn Trent†	1049½	+ 18½	3.7	11.1
3675	3265	South Staff†	3585		3.7	13.7
1005	864½	South West†	996	+ 4½	5.1	12.9
1105	800	Thames	1091	+ 10	4.5	11.9
950	668	Utd Utilities†	871½	+ 8	5.1	10.6
550	452	Wessex	455½	+ ½	5.7	9.0
550	436½	Yorkshire†	450	- 5	5.7	9.2

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
235	193	Cafe Inns▼	205	- 10	2.0	13.2
29	14½	Choriont	27½			
39½	29	Firepages	37½			
65½	47½	Megalomedia	49		0.6	
38	21½	Memory Corp	30	+ ½		
515	344	Prima Rail	447½	- 22½	5.4	9.0
847½	620	Ramco Egy	690	+ 7½		
847	740	Southern News	842½		3.1	16.5
94½	82½	Southern Vectis	82½		3.2	12.8



BRITISH FUNDS

1998 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
100⅞	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100		7.25	7.65
105⅞	101⅞	Treas 15½% 1998	101⅞	- ⅛	15.22	7.40
104⅞	101⅞	Exch 12% 1998	101⅞		11.81	7.49
102⅞	101⅞	Treas 9½% 1999	101⅞		9.40	7.51
109⅞	105⅞	Exch 12¼% 1999	103⅞		11.85	7.44
104⅞	102⅞	Treas 10½% 1999	102⅞		10.24	7.46
99⅞	98⅞	Treas 6% 1999	98⅞	+ ⅛	6.08	7.24
108⅞	103⅞	Conv 10¼% 1999	103⅞	+ ⅛	9.88	7.21
105⅞	102⅞	Conv 9% 2000	102⅞	+ ⅛	8.75	7.12
104⅞	102⅞	Treas 8% 2000	102⅞	+ ⅛	7.81	6.98
103⅞	101⅞	Treas 8½% 2000	101⅞	+ ⅛	8.34	7.25
114⅞	111⅞	Treas 13% 2000	111⅞	+ ⅛	11.70	7.05
109⅞	107⅞	Treas 10% 2001	107⅞	+ ⅛	9.31	6.88
102⅞	100⅞	Treas 7% 2001	101⅞	+ ⅛	6.93	6.63
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
103⅞	101⅞	Treas 7% 2002	101⅞	+ ⅛	6.88	6.46
113⅞	111⅞	Treas 9¾% 2002	111⅞	+ ⅛	8.74	6.52
109	106⅞	Treas 8% 2003	107⅞	+ ⅛	7.47	6.32
118⅞	115⅞	Treas 10% 2003	115⅞	+ ⅛	8.62	6.33
114⅞	110⅞	Treas 11½% 2001-04	111⅞	+ ⅛	10.34	6.88
93⅞	98⅞	Fund 3½% 1999-04	92⅞	+ ⅛	3.80	5.04
119⅞	116⅞	Conv 9½% 2004	117⅞	+ ⅛	8.11	6.17
105⅞	101⅞	Treas 6¾% 2004	103⅞	+ ⅛	6.52	6.07
118⅞	113⅞	Treas 8½% 2005	114⅞	+ ⅛	7.42	6.04
130⅞	117⅞	Conv 9½% 2005	118⅞	+ ⅛	8.02	6.12
130⅞	127⅞	Treas 12½% 2003-05	127⅞	+ ⅛	9.77	6.27
114⅞	107⅞	Treas 7¾% 2006	110⅞	+ ⅛	6.81	5.98
112⅞	106⅞	Treas 7¾% 2006	111⅞	- ⅛	6.97	5.99
111⅞	105⅞	Treas 7¼% 2007	110	+ ⅛	6.59	5.85
126⅞	121⅞	Treas 9% 2008	124⅞	+ ⅛	7.25	5.84
120	113⅞	Treas 8% 2009	118⅞	- ⅛	6.77	5.78
106⅞	99⅞	Treas 6¼% 2010	104⅞	+ ⅛	5.99	5.74
131⅞	124⅞	Conv 9% 2011	129	+ ⅛	6.98	5.80
133⅞	125⅞	Treas 9% 2012	130⅞	+ ⅛	6.90	5.80
101⅞	93⅞	Treas 5½% 2008-12	99⅞	+ ⅛	5.54	5.57
120⅞	112⅞	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	118⅞	+ ⅛	6.57	5.81
LONGS (over 15 years)						
124⅞	116⅞	Treas 8% 2013	122⅞	+ ⅛	6.54	5.77
128⅞	118⅞	Treas 8% 2015	125⅞	+ ⅛	6.38	5.69
138⅞	127⅞	Treas 8¾% 2017	135⅞	+ ⅛	6.46	5.66
133⅞	121⅞	Tr 8% 2021	130⅞	+ ⅛	6.13	5.61
UNDATED						
63⅞	55⅞	War Ln 3½%	61⅞	+ ⅛	5.68	
44⅞	38⅞	Treas 2½%	43⅞	+ ⅛	5.80	
68⅞	61⅞	Consols 4%	67⅞	+ ⅛	5.95	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					5%	3%
199⅞	194⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2001	198⅞	+ ⅛	3.02	3.42
197⅞	192⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2003	196⅞	+ ⅛	2.95	3.22
127⅞	124⅞	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	127⅞	+ ⅛	2.86	3.08
216⅞	206⅞	Treas IL 2% 2006	215⅞	+ ⅛	2.77	2.94
198⅞	187⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2009	195⅞	+ ⅛	2.72	2.85
209⅞	195⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2011	208	+ ⅛	2.68	2.79
176⅞	162⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2013	174⅞	+ ⅛	2.63	2.73
193⅞	175⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2016	191⅞	+ ⅛	2.59	2.68
169⅞	170⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2020	168⅞	+ ⅛	2.58	2.65

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights;

Court of Appeal — Law Report July 1 1998 — Court of Appeal

Date for alternative development

Secretary of State for the Environment v Fletcher Estates (Harlescott) Ltd
Newell and Others v Secretary of State for the Environment

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Gibson and Lord Justice Buxton

[Judgment June 11]

The relevant date for determining applications for alternative development under section 17(4) of the Land Compensation Act 1961 was the date of the notice to treat or the offer to purchase and in making that decision the proposal underlying the acquisition should be disregarded.

The Court of Appeal so stated when dismissing the appeal on the first issue and allowing the appeal on the second issue by the Secretary of State for the Environment from the decision of Mr Justice Dyson (*The Times* July 11, 1997).

The respondents owned two parcels of land which were the subject of a proposed compulsory purchase order to build a bypass, made by the Secretary of State for Transport on January 30, 1986, with a date of entry on July 6, 1990.

They applied under section 17(4) for certificates of appropriate alternative development in respect of the land. The local authority granted positive certificates for residential and industrial development.

The Secretary of State for Transport appealed against the certificates and the Secretary of State for the Environment allowed the appeals, substituting negative certificates under section 17(4)(b). The respondents appealed to Mr Justice Dyson.

Mr Duncan Ouseley, QC and Mr Rabinder Singh for the secretary of state; Mr Robin Purchas, QC and Mr Timothy Comyn for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE BUXTON said there were two issues before the court:

1 Was the relevant date at which the decision under section 17(4) had to be made (i) the section 22(2)(a) date, the notice date, as found by the judge or (ii) the date of entry on the land, as contended for by the secretary of state?

2 In making that decision, did the words "if it were not proposed to be acquired" in section 17(4) mean that there should be discounted (i) the section 22(2)(a) compulsory acquisition and the proposal underlying that acquisition as it stood at the relevant date, as the secretary of state contended, or (ii) additionally the facts and policies that resulted from the underlying scheme that culminated in that compulsory acquisition, as the judge found?

The judge had held, inter alia, that the appropriate date for determining alternative development was the date of the proposal to acquire the relevant interests in the land under section 22(2)(a) of the 1961 Act and that in making that determination the secretary of state should have discounted the effects of the proposal to acquire land, including those arising before the date of the notice to treat.

The issue as to the relevant date was settled in *Jelson Ltd v Minister of Housing and Local Government and Others* ([1970] 1 QB 243). Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, there held that the matter was one of statutory construction and the crucial word "proposed" referred to the proposal contained in an actual or deemed notice to treat or in an offer to purchase.

It was the date of the actual or deemed notice to treat or of the offer to purchase that was crucial when considering whether at that date planning permission might reasonably have been expected to be granted.

Mr Ouseley sought to rely on *Robert Hitchins Builders Ltd v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another* ((1978) 37 P & CR 140), which distinguished *Jelson* on the ground that the solution applied to section 22(2)(b) was not to be applied to section 22(2)(a).

That was rejected on the basis that the use of the word "proposed" in the common part of section 22(2) had to apply equally to subsubsections (a) and (b) and to (c) which had nothing to do with notices to treat. The judge in *Hitchins* was wrong to distinguish *Jelson* and the case was overruled.

It was not clear whether the court in *Jelson* dealt with the issue as to what had to be disregarded when considering an application under section 17, but it was held in that case that the planning authority had to look at the matter as at the date of the proposal under the appropriate sub-subsection of section 22(2).

The present case concerned section 22(2)(b) and therefore what had to be disregarded under section 17 was the case described in section 22(2)(b): the proposal for compulsory acquisition.

As a matter of statutory construction therefore, what had to be disregarded under section 17 was the proposal for acquisition and not any fact or policy attributable, at any time in the past, to the underlying scheme. Otherwise the respondent's argument would require everything from 1952 onwards, when the bypass was originally proposed, to be disregarded.

The principle in *Pointe Gourd Quarrying and Transport Co Ltd v Sub-Intendent of Crown Lands* ([1947] AC 565) that any increase or decrease in the value of land that was entirely due to the scheme underlying the acquisition was to be disregarded, was to apply to the task of valuation but not to the task of certification under section 17.

Application of the *Pointe Gourde* principle to section 17 would conflict with the plain wording of the statute. If the secretary of state engaged in the exercise of valuation in advance of its being considered by the Lands Tribunal, it would not be binding on that tribunal and might even be different from the assessment made by it.

Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Peter Gibson agreed.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Manby & Steward, Telford.

Double taxation relief not available

Memec plc v Inland Revenue Commissioners

Before Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Henry and Sir Christopher Staughton

[Judgment June 9]

A distribution to an English company of a large share of the income of a German holding company that was derived from German trading subsidiaries and paid to the English company under the terms of a silent partnership agreement was not a payment of dividends for the purposes of Part XVIII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 so that double taxation relief was not available to the English company.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer company, Memec plc, from the decision of Mr Justice Robert Walker (*The Times* November 7, 1996; [1996] STC 1336) upholding the refusal by a special commissioner of Memec's claims for the relief from corporation tax for accounting periods to December 1986, 1987 and 1988.

Mr Robert Venables, QC, Mr Julian Ghosh and Mrs Amanda Hardy for Memec; Mr Launcelot Henderson, QC, for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that Memec claimed relief in respect of trade tax (*Gewerbesteuer*) levied in Germany on the profits of two German companies, which profits were the ultimate source of certain income received by Memec in the relevant accounting periods.

The claims were made pursuant to a double taxation convention made with Germany and scheduled to the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Federal Republic of Germany Order (SI 1967 No 25) as amended by the protocol set out in the Schedule to the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Federal Republic of Germany) Order (SI 1971 No 874) (article XVIII "Elimination of double taxation"), alternatively pursuant to Part XVIII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 and/or Part XVIII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Memec plc, a company resident in England, owned the issued share capital of Memec GmbH, a German holding company resident in Germany, which owned the share capital of two German subsidiary trading companies.

In 1985, with the primary intention of reducing the burden of German tax, Memec plc entered into a silent partnership agreement, formed under the German Commercial Code, with Memec GmbH.

The essential points of such a partnership were that the silent partner made a capital contribution to a commercial enterprise run by another who was designated the owner. The owner remained the owner of the business assets and the income from them. The silent partner had a contractual right to payment of his share of the annual profits as shown by the partnership accounts.

Under the agreement, Memec plc was the silent partner making a capital contribution of DM2.05 million and Memec GmbH was the owner of what was called the "GmbH business".

The effect was that Memec GmbH was not liable to German corporation tax on Memec plc's share of the profit.

But as soon as the German corporation tax was avoided by the formation of the silent partnership, the availability of a credit for the subsidiaries' trade tax became a matter of practical importance.

That was the issue in the case: Memec plc submitted that unless it was entitled to credit for the trade tax paid by the subsidiaries, it would have suffered economic double taxation.

Credit against UK corporation tax for the trade tax borne by the subsidiaries which paid dividends to Memec GmbH could be obtainable by Memec plc if either the dividends paid by the subsidiaries could be treated as paid to Memec plc or the share of the profits of the silent partnership paid to Memec plc could be treated as a dividend paid by Memec GmbH.

Mr Venables' arguments depended on Memec plc's having received dividends and rested on one of two bases:

1 The dividends were the convention dividends paid by the subsidiaries and received as profits of the silent partnership, or

2 The share of the profits of the silent partnership which was paid by Memec GmbH to Memec plc was a dividend.

1 Transparency

To succeed on that basis Memec plc had to establish that the silent partnership was properly to be regarded as transparent, so that Memec plc as the silent partner was to be treated for UK corporation tax purposes as entitled to a share of the dividends paid by the subsidiaries.

The judge was correct to reject that argument. The partnership agreement was the source of Memec plc's share of the profits of the Memec GmbH business, not the trading operations of the subsidiaries.

2 Share of profits as a dividend

Mr Venables submitted that in article XVIII "dividends" had the same meaning as in article VI, which the Crown accepted covered a share of the profits paid to a silent partner.

Even if that submission was correct, the convention would not suffice to enable Memec plc to obtain a credit for the trade tax on the subsidiaries' profits. But Mr Venables relied on section 801 of the 1988 Act, dividends paid between related companies: relief for UK and third country taxes, to deem that tax to have been paid by Memec GmbH.

The special commissioner was correct on that point. "Dividends" in article XVIII did not include the share of the profits from the silent partnership.

To treat Memec plc's entitlement to a share of the profits of Memec GmbH under the silent partnership agreement as a dividend, when the payment was unrelated to shares in Memec GmbH and the partnership was not a company, would be inconsistent with the ordinary meaning of "dividend".

For those reasons the contentions advanced on behalf of Memec plc, including the additional arguments based on section 790(6) and 800 of the 1988 Act, had to be rejected.

Lord Justice Henry agreed and Sir Christopher Staughton gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Finers; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Undue influence on wife not established

Dunbar Bank plc v Nadeem and Another

Before Lord Justice Millett, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Potter

[Judgment June 18]

Where a wife, at her husband's request, signed a joint loan facility for the purchase of a lease in their joint names, and the property was charged with the bank to secure the loan and the husband's personal debts to the bank, and where the wife thereby obtained for the first time an equity of redemption in the lease, she was not manifestly disadvantaged so as to establish presumed undue influence by her husband. Accordingly, the transaction would not be set aside as between the wife and the bank.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing Zubaida Nadeem's appeal against the decision of Mr Robert Englehart, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge (*The Times* November 13, 1996), whereby, on an action by Dunbar Bank plc for possession against her and her husband, Maurice Nadeem, he ordered that the bank's charge against the wife be set aside for presumed undue influence only if she repaid to the bank half of the sum used to purchase the property.

The Court of Appeal allowed the bank's cross-appeal against the order setting aside the charge and granted the order for possession.

Mr John Cherryman, QC and Mr John Horan for the bank; Mr Leolin Price, QC and Mr Bernard Devlin for the wife; the husband did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT said that the judge had held:

1 That the wife had established a relationship of trust and confidence in her husband, she left financial matters to him and did what he asked;

2 That she had not established actual undue influence;

3 That the transaction was manifestly disadvantageous to her and that she accordingly established presumed undue influence;

4 That the bank had constructive notice of the defect in the transaction and that the wife was accordingly prima facie entitled to have the charge set aside as between her and the bank; and

5 That if the transaction was set aside any unjust enrichment to her would be avoided by requiring her to repay to the bank half of the money advanced for the purchase of the lease.

However, the transaction was not manifestly disadvantageous to the wife. She obtained a beneficial joint interest in the equity of redemption.

The case for the wife was one of presumed rather than actual undue influence. Actual undue influence gave rise to an entitlement to have the transaction set aside: see *CICB Mortgages plc v Pitt* ([1994] 1 AC 200).

Proof of manifest disadvantage was necessary in a case of presumed undue influence: see *Bank of Credit and Commerce International SA v Aboody* ([1990] 1 QB 923).

Accordingly, the bank's cross-appeal succeeded and it was unnecessary to deal with the wife's appeal.

Rescission was an equitable remedy. Restitutio in integrum to the other party was a condition of relief. If it was impossible to restore the parties' positions equity would not intervene: see *Erlanger v New Sombrero Phosphate Co* ((1878) 3 App Cas 1218).

If the claim for undue influence had succeeded, the wife's right to rescission depended on her ability to make restitution. But the judge was wrong in principle to make the order setting aside the charge conditional on the repayment of moneys by the wife.

The extent of the wife's unjust enrichment was not the money obtained by her and her husband jointly, but her interest in the equity of redemption. Once the charge was set aside, that eliminated any interest she had.

Lord Justice Morritt delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Potter agreed that the cross-appeal should be allowed.

Solicitors: Nicholson Graham & Jones; Rippon Patel & French.

Need to avoid inconsistency

In re a Debtor (No 90 of 1997)

Before Judge Hegarty, QC

[Judgment May 20]

The need to avoid the possibility of inconsistent verdicts where parallel proceedings in the ordinary and bankruptcy jurisdictions of the county court covered the same issues between the same parties, could constitute other grounds on which a court could be satisfied that a statutory demand ought to be set aside pursuant to Rule 6.5.4(d) of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925).

However, where, as in the present case, the two actions as pleaded did not overlap, the mere possibility that the ordinary action and bankruptcy proceedings might do so, would not justify setting aside the statutory demand.

Judge Hegarty, QC, sitting as an additional judge in the Chancery Division so held when dismissing the appeal of the debtor, Mrs Pearl Joan Barnes, from the decision of District Judge Silverwood-Cope, at Chelmsford County Court on March 3, 1998, to dismiss the debtor's application to set aside the statutory demand issued by Mrs Susan Ann Renwick on November 17, 1997.

Mr Nicholas Bacon for the debtor; Mr Rupert Butler for the creditor.

HIS LORDSHIP said that District Judge Silverwood-Cope had refused to set aside a statutory demand served on the debtor and her husband for sums due to Mrs Renwick as a result of their failure to complete the purchase of the freehold of restaurant premises at 3 High Street, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex.

Under the terms of the purchase agreement, the debtor became liable for 10 per cent of the purchase price of £90,000 on failing to complete the purchase, less the £900 deposit which had already been paid.

Since the service of the statutory demand, Mrs Renwick had also commenced an ordinary county court action for breach of contract against Mr and Mrs Barnes in respect of the same purchase agreement.

In that action she sought rescission, possession of the premises, mesne profits, damages and an account of profits, although she did not claim the 10 per cent of the proposed purchase price of the property to which she was entitled under the purchase agreement in the event of Mrs Barnes and her husband failing to complete.

The debtor claimed that her solicitors were told by Mrs Renwick's solicitors in the course of a directions hearing at Chelmsford County Court on March 12 that a claim for the money due under the purchase agreement might form part of that action. This allegation was not repeated in the debtor's affidavit.

The need to avoid inconsistent verdicts in parallel insolvency and ordinary proceedings concerning identical issues might require the court to set aside the statutory demand or alternatively stay the insolvency proceedings pending the resolution of the issues in the ordinary action.

However, the mere possibility that such a claim might in the future address identical issues to the ordinary action, unsupported by clear evidence that it was likely to do so, was not sufficient to justify setting aside the statutory demand.

Mrs Renwick had to bring an ordinary action in order to obtain an order for possession of the premises, although she had a choice as to how to recover the money due under the purchase agreement. She had chosen to do so by way of a statutory demand.

Solicitors: Budd Martin Burrett, Chelmsford; Jepp & Sons, Chelmsford.

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HOUSE NW6
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CHELSEA SW3 ... Lux 2 rm Apt Only ...

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KENTON CRT W14. 1 dble bed apt (long lease), p/b, porter. £130k. 0181 741 2224 A H Props.

LAVERTON MEWS 2/3 bedroom house on 2 floors, stylishly modernised to excellent standard, superb roof terrace 27x25, garage. £530,000. Hogarth Estates 0171 373 9637.

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W11 Stunning 4 bed, newly modernised period Terraced House, 2 mins walk Nottinghill Tube. £700k. Tel: 0171 221 3834

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SW10 Earls Court lux lge 2dble bed flat new refurb c/fa/heat nr tube £280pw. 0171 8343047

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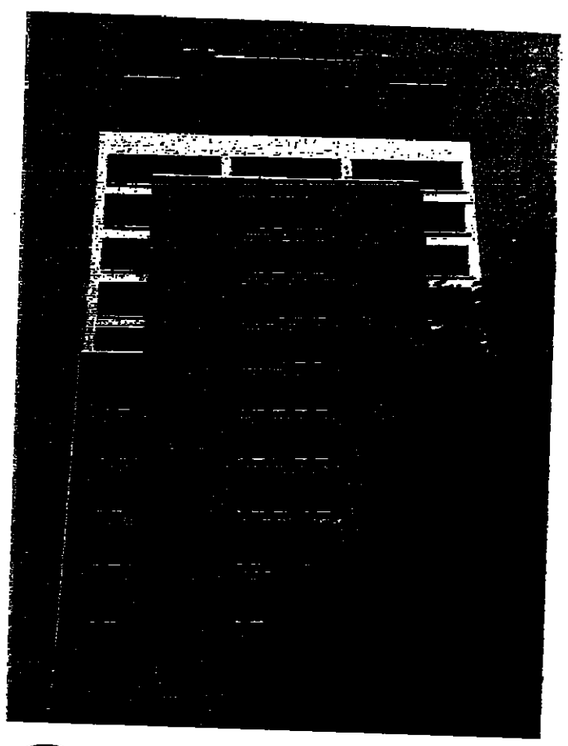
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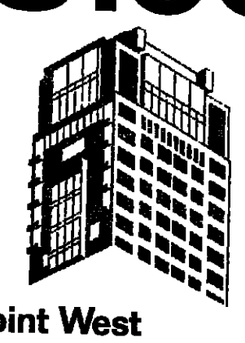
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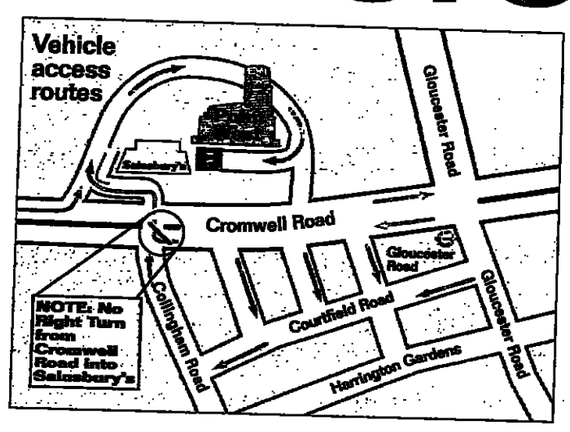


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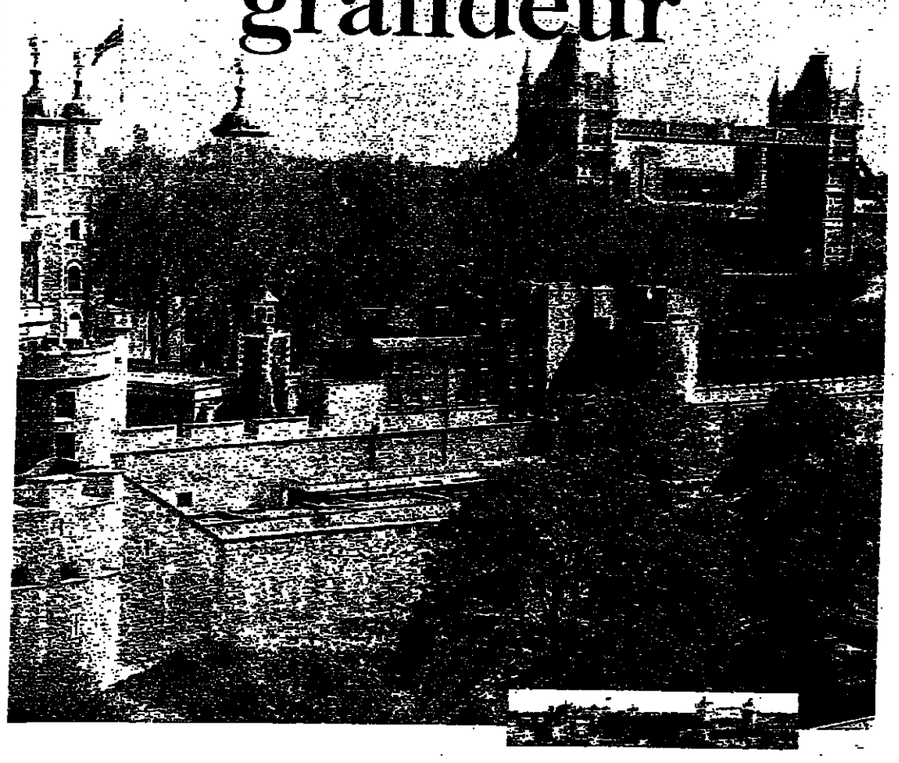
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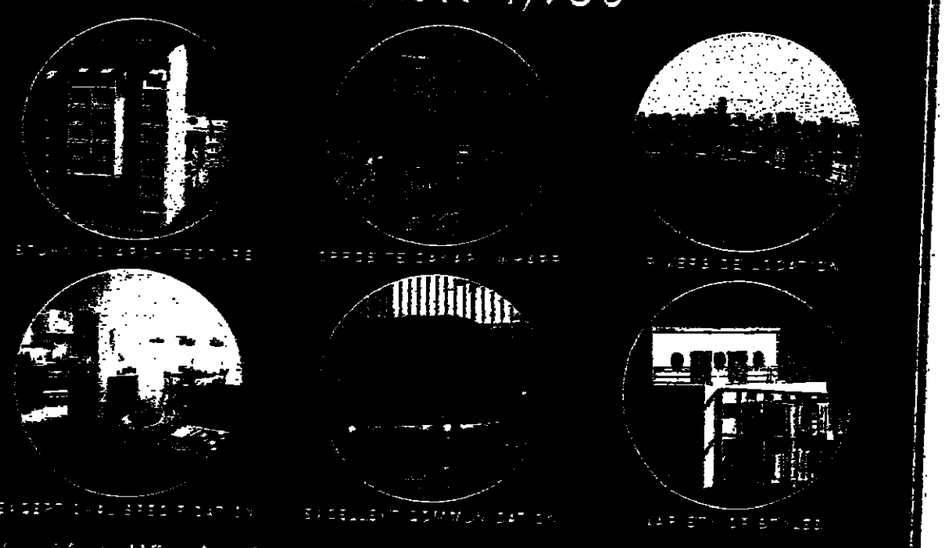
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Cracking down on the rogue builders

A tough new policy has been brought in by the NHBC, but will it work? **Rachel Kelly** reports



ALBAN DONOHOE

Home help: Alister and Louise Chisholm outside their house in Weybourne, Norfolk. They were able to get their builder to carry out repairs only after the NHBC took up their case

The body which regulates the country's new homes says it is cracking down on shoddy building work which can leave owners of new property with broken homes as well as dreams.

The National House Building Council is getting tough with builders after the number of disputes between housebuilders and consumers increased over the past decade.

The number of cases where the NHBC intervened in disputes rose from 889 in 1979 to 4,732 in 1997. Cases tend to relate to snagging problems and *finishing work such as painting* and plastering.

Imtiaz Farookhi, the NHBC chief executive, has written to all major housebuilders spelling out a new hardline approach and saying that they must cut the time in which they fix problems from 28 to 21 days.

"We want to get the message across that builders have to get it right first time." Mr Farookhi says. "We are telling builders that they must be much more proactive with consumers." The council will enforce the new rules from next April.

"We aim to ensure that the NHBC is open, responsive and dynamic in our core activities of builder regulation, inspection, industry training and providing warranties."

The NHBC figures show that more than 80 per cent of defects during the two-year conciliation period are resolved by the builder. The other 20 per cent become long-term complaints on the NHBC's books.

"The increase in the number of conciliation cases reflected the increase in the number of new homes that were being built in the current boom," a spokeswoman for the NHBC says. Many of the cases involved a complete breakdown in communications between builder and the homeowner, with the NHBC forced to act as go-between. Around 150,000 new homes a year are currently built, compared with around 120,000 in the depths of the recession.

"Although housebuilding standards have gone up considerably, and that is a fact, consumer expectations have risen at a faster rate," the spokeswoman adds.

Mr Farookhi emphasises the number of homes built without problems. "We can prove that 99.3 per cent of the 1.7 million new homebuyers with NHBC protection have no problems with their properties. And if something does go wrong, it is put right quickly and effectively in 80 per cent of such cases thanks to a streamlined claims system and customer charter."

Henceforth, the NHBC willl take over the repair of a home in the two-year period if repair work by the builder does not meet a reasonable standard or where communications have broken down between builder and householder.

Initiatives include a new independent consumer committee with main board representation, a "naming and shaming" of builders removed from a register for disciplinary reasons, extension of the warranty cover and a layman's guide and free video which explains the cover to buyers. Information about the warranty and guidelines about what to look for when buying a new home are also on a new NHBC website.

All the initiatives are part of the NHBC's overhaul of its operations as a result of an internal review begun 18 months ago and recent criticism from bodies such as the National Association of New Home Owners, set up three years ago by Chris Lorentzen to campaign on behalf of consumers, and Professor Malcolm Hollis, surveyor and chairman of surveying at Reading University. The NHBC was started in the 1930s to combat postwar jerry-building. "Independent audit has proved that we have successfully raised building standards over the past 60 years. We are regarded as a model of best practice worldwide and our system is copied from the Far East to Canada and South Africa," Mr Farookhi says.

Part of the problem for the NHBC is that there is confusion in the public mind between rogue traders, who carry out repairs and extension work, and housebuilders, who build new homes and carry out conversions, says Mr Farookhi. "The NHBC has spearheaded an industry-wide action group to take up the fight against rogue traders because they bring the entire industry into disrepute, however mistakenly."

One criticism is that the NHBC inspections are more lenient than those conducted by local authority building inspectors.

Until 1985, new homes were inspected by council employees who ensured that the property complied with government regulations. Thereafter, in an effort to break the monopoly and to improve services, the Government introduced independent approved inspectors and the NHBC was the first to be appointed. The NHBC is licensed to perform inspections as well as offering its own warranty.

An NHBC spokeswoman denied that its inspections were more lenient than those of local authorities.

"As the premier warranty providers, we continually identify problems and defects missed by local authorities during their building control when we have to handle the resulting claims." The NHBC is also drawing up new guidance on standards for the finishing trades, such as painters, to be released shortly.

● *The Guide to the NHBC Buildmark warranty and the free video may be ordered on freephone 0800 688788.*

● *The National Association of New Home Owners 01903 879733.*

CASE HISTORY

A dream in need of repair

IN JULY 1996, Alister Chisholm, a retired printer, and his wife Louise brought what they thought would be the perfect retirement cottage in Weybourne, Norfolk. They had been married for more than 50 years, and wanted somewhere that would be peaceful and problem-free *(writes Tom Smithard)*.

This £89,000 new home had just been built and with the security of a ten-year guarantee from the builders, whom they did not wish to name, they believed that they would have a happy retirement.

Peace lasted for five weeks. Heavy rain and wind blew away the end row of roof tiles, exposing the house to the elements. Soon damp patches, some 6ft by 4ft, developed on the walls of the cottage.

When the Chisholms contacted their local council, the inspector refused to look or to be of any help, says Mr Chisholm. The couple became distraught, and when further storms destroyed a chimney, and the inspector still refused to help, Mrs Chisholm wrote to the NHBC.

Gerald King, the local representative of the NHBC, took up the case. "Mr King was polite, friendly and considerate throughout, and was very reassuring when we were feeling desperate," says Mr Chisolm.

The couple specified that the chimney needed to be removed and rebuilt, and another wall built in front of the rotten northeast-facing wall at a cost of £1,000. The builder refused to comply.

Without the persistence of the NHBC, it is unlikely that their home would have been repaired. The Chisholms' only (costly) alternative would have been to take the builders to court.

The couple believe that many cases are dealt with satisfactorily by the NHBC, but happy customers do not shout about the organisation because they fear that talk of repairs might devalue their property.

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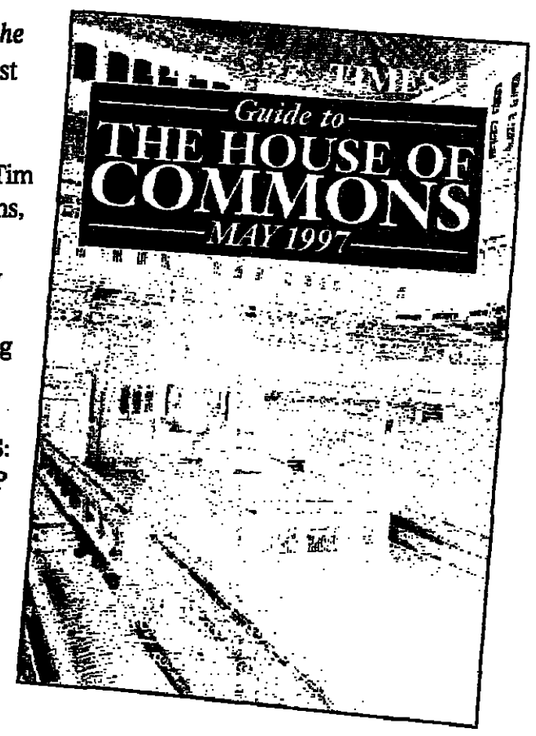
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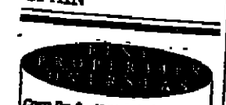
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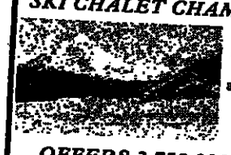
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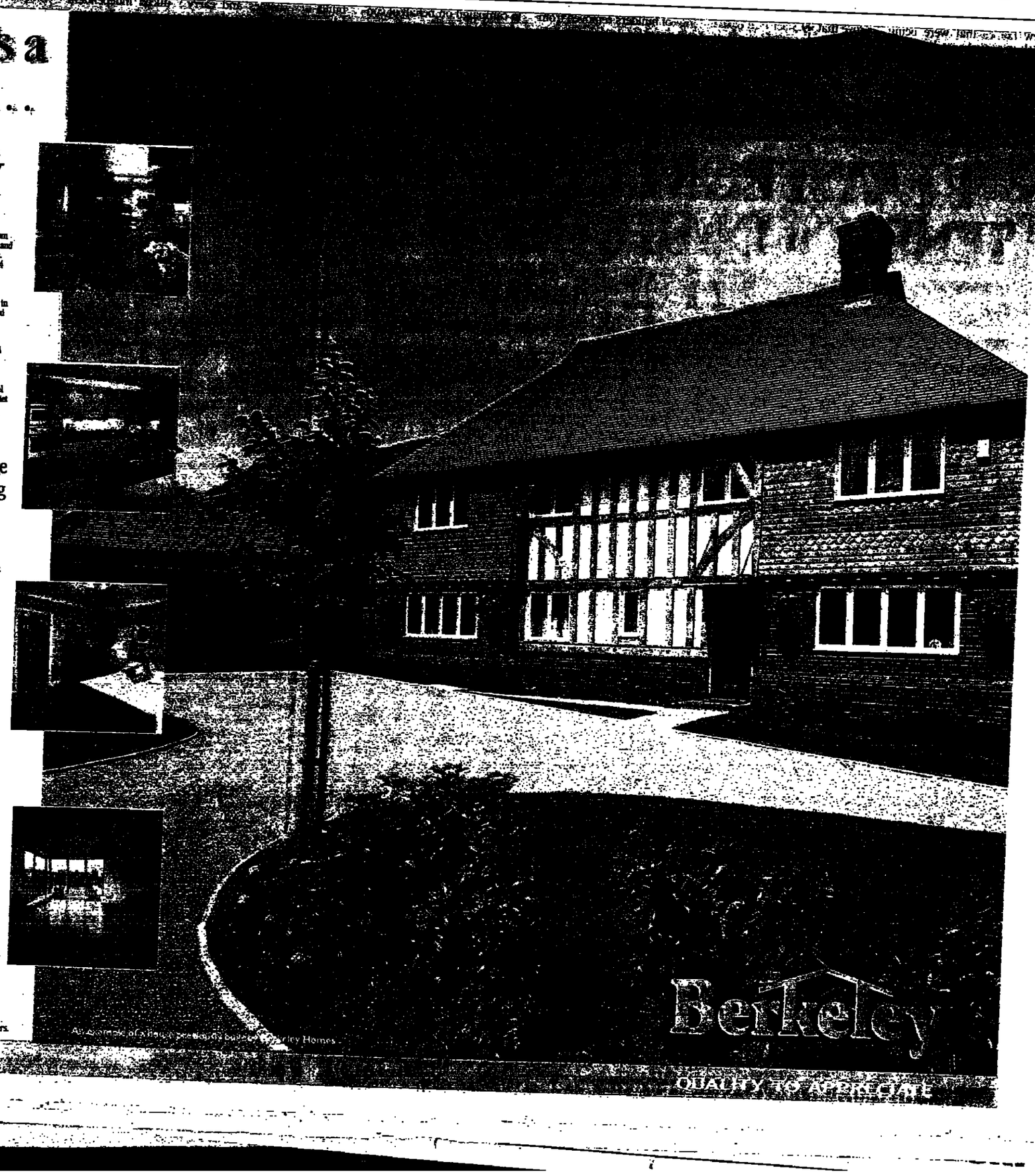
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THEATRE

In Leeds, a raw slice of northern life

PAGE 37

THE TIMES ARTS

GALLERIES

Maori art on show at the BM

THIS PAGE



BRIEFLY NOTED

Ivory toast

COMPETITION: In Moscow a 20-year-old British pianist, Frederick Kempf, has taken third place in the world's most famous piano competition, the Tchaikovsky. Top prize went to a Russian, Denis Matsuyev, who beat more than 300 competitors from 46 countries

Kempf, born and bred in Croydon and trained at the Royal Academy of Music in London, won the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition in 1992, when he was 14. His high placing on Monday night was popular with the Russian crowd, not least because he is married to a Russian pianist and fellow pupil at the Royal Academy, Sophia Yastrubenetskaya.

OPERA: While the Eyre Report ponders how to make London's big opera houses more accessible, one smaller company is planning a revolutionary pricing policy for its London season. When the training company British Youth Opera plays *Così fan tutte* and *La Bohème* at the Queen Elizabeth Hall (Sept 3-10), every ticket will cost £5. How's it done? The answer is a £50,000 grant from the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund. The Princess was the BYO's patron from 1991 to 1996.

In the same month, Glyndebourne presents the premiere of an opera about an airport. *Flight*, to be premiered on September 24, will have music by Jonathan Dove, a libretto by the playwright April de Angelis, and a production by the controversial Richard Jones. The latter is no stranger to the travel business: he staged the musical *Titanic* on Broadway two years ago.

Spirits of the South Seas

VISUAL ART: John Russell Taylor sees more than ethnography in the British Museum's *Maori* show

The word "Eurocentric" is a badge of shame in modern art criticism. But the fact remains, right or wrong, that anywhere in Europe our cultural formation has been almost exclusively European, deriving from Classical civilisation mediated by the Judaeo-Christian tradition. Obviously this does not mean that our eyes and minds are going to be closed to art with very different roots, but we should at least acknowledge the built-in difficulties of appreciating, say, Han dynasty Chinese or virtually any pre-Columbian American art. And in the range of world art, we are unlikely to encounter anything much more alien than the exhibits in *Maori*, the British Museum's big summer special.

The first problem is to come to terms with the products of a culture where the concept of art as a self-sufficient, free-standing element in human life did not exist at all. Everything in the show, except the most recent works — a group of drawings by a contemporary Maori artist improbably called John Bevan Ford celebrating (a little defensively, perhaps?) the role of the British Museum as guardian of Maori culture — is arguably not an artwork at all by European standards. Everything, in other words, has a utilitarian or ritual use, to be worn or drunk out of, or to help to hold up a house. Even if utilitarian and ritual are impossible to separate, as in the case of garments and holdalls, their interconnection in the culture leaves little or no space for art for art's sake.

All the same, there is nothing to prevent us from enjoying these pieces, however inappropriately, according to Western canons of art, rather than as ethnography. True, anyone visiting the show will come away with a very clear idea of Maori culture, but those who seek artistic stimulation will find it in plenty. The aesthetic is in many ways anti-Classical, though symmetry in pattern-making is usually respected. Otherwise, the Maori ideal seems closer to, for example, the early Celtic, loading every rift with ore and covering every available inch with obsessive decoration.

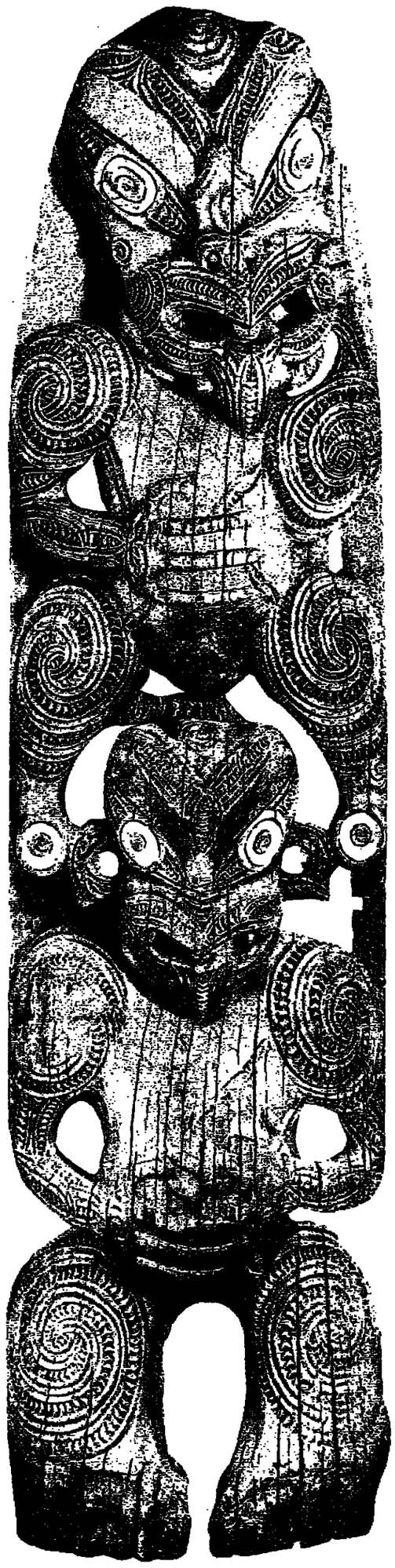
> The Maori ideal seems close to the early Celtic

This is most evident in the wood carvings of humanoid figures decorating Maori buildings. These seem to be gods or spirits (carving itself was given to humanity by Tangaroa, god of the sea), and more often than not, at least on this evidence, seem to be feminine. The decoration on the figures is clearly linked to another Maori artform, the tattoo, while the intricate serpentine forms used in the prow of boats are related to the local vegetation. Among the other works some of the most fetching, and unclassifiable, are the cloaks and wraps made out of feathers: the sheen of the feathers makes for sensuously satisfying textures, while the range of colours derived from the various birds available to the Maori produces some very complex and subtle effects.

Indeed, what strikes one principally about Maori art is its great sophistication. Nothing here is technically primitive or ill-finished. Also, it seems to have sprung into existence fully formed by, at the latest, the 15th century, and changed very little since, maintaining its own stylistic integrity even after the introduction of metal tools and other techniques unknown in pre-colonial New Zealand. Maori art, like Chinese art, has depended much on tradition, the perpetuation and manipulation of a repertoire of traditional forms handed on from generation to generation by a whole system of copying and controlled variation.

If some of the human figures look menacing, this has more to do with unfamiliarity than with any inherent threat. Clearly the Maori have always been a warrior people, but the gentler arts of weaving and basketry have also been practised, and often what looks at first glance like a sword proves to be a ploughshare on closer inspection. Small stone-carved pendants or large wood portals, everything here carries a reassuring message that strength can always be expressed with extreme delicacy.

● *British Museum, Great Russell Street, WC1 (0171-636 1555), until Nov 1, 10am-5pm Mon-Sat, 12-6pm Sun*



The eyes have it: side post from a Maori meeting house

But surely we already knew this

EYRE REPORT: It's been a long wait for a bulky document with no particularly original conclusions

At long last, eight months after it was commissioned, eight weeks after it was due, Sir Richard Eyre's report into opera and ballet in London has arrived. The original brief proposed shunting the English National Opera into the Royal Opera House, alongside the Royal Opera and the Royal Ballet. Another four or five options were put up beside this one for Eyre to consider. A working group was established, comprising relevantly experienced professionals, officers and members of the Arts Council, and — initially — representatives of the companies under review.

The existence of the review, with its wide-ranging terms of reference, has slowed down the ROH's planning for the occupation of its new building. Plans for the new staffing structures and union agreements have been in suspension. Sir Colin Southgate has said that it has not been possible to make commitments to artists for the first season in the new building, due to open in less than 18 months' time. Fundraising has more or less come to a halt.



MARY ALLEN

So what does it say? Very little that has not already been said by the ROH, ENO or the Arts Council at some point over the past few years. That is both a relief and a source of frustration.

It is a relief because it shows that the hundreds of men and women who have been involved in shaping the lyric arts scene in London during the past decade have been right about what is needed, while struggling to achieve it in the face of considerable obstacles. It is frustrating because there is as yet no indication that the main obstacle, lack of money, is going to be removed.

After all, Clive Priestley produced a similar report on the ROH in 1983, recommending that its grant be increased. Nothing happened then. Will anything happen now? It is simply not possible to implement the majority of Eyre's admirable recommendations without extra cash. Whether the Government responds remains to be seen. But in the meantime it is worth drawing attention to three aspects of the report which could lead to real and beneficial change.

First, ENO is recommended to increase the number of weeks available to dance at the Coliseum, particularly to English National Ballet. This was a recommendation to come out of the 1995 Stevenson report into lyric theatre in London, and ENO must now be encouraged to accept it while being given the funds necessary to implement it. Although there might not yet be sufficient provision or demand to create a dedicated dance house, the Coliseum stage is magnificent for dance and it is important that a wide range of large-scale companies is given the chance to perform there.

The second is the clear implication that the present divisions between the different parts of the ROH structure must be broken down. One of the most radical aspects of Eyre's original brief was the possibility that the ROH might be split into two companies and a receiving house. That has been rejected. Instead, Eyre recommends a management structure that brings together opera and ballet as equal partners within a single enterprise. Although this offers greater management challenges than the segregated option, it will provide far more artistic benefits. Similarly, the recommendations about the use of the orchestra, and the working relationship between the Royal Opera House music director and the Royal Ballet music director will be helpful.

Third is the notion of a co-ordinating group looking at programming, union agreements and broadcasting. The success of such a grouping will be entirely dependent on the goodwill that the individual players bring to the table. Relationships in the past have not always been good, as the report makes clear. It will be important now that the emphasis is on collaboration and not competition, and that those who fund are seen as the allies, rather than the enemies of the performing companies.

Because funding is the key. Potentially the most interesting announcement yesterday was not contained in Eyre's report, but in Chris Smith's letter to Sir Colin Southgate, when he suggested that they sit down together with the Arts Council and the Treasury to look at the management and finances of the ROH. It is unusual, certainly in the arts, for the Treasury to become directly involved in discussions of this kind. It also offers a unique opportunity, not just for the ROH but for the arts as a whole, to persuade the Treasury of the arts' value.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

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ZURICH

CHANGING TIMES

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament: DEAN COLLINSON

Age: 24.

Occupation: Singer, songwriter, composer and musician.

Bit of an all-rounder, then? Yes, and you can add "actor" because he makes his stage debut in Andrew Lloyd Webber's and Jim Steinman's musical, *Whistle Down the Wind*, opening at the Aldwych tonight.

Rebel with a cause: He plays Amos, "a cocky, 17-year-old, Harley Davidson-riding James Dean type" in love with Swallow (the Hayley Mills character in the 1961 film). His big solo, *A Kiss is a Terrible Thing to Waste*, is "seven minutes long and quite Meat Loaf-ish".

Southern twang: With the story relocated from Lancashire to Louisiana, he has been transforming his native Hull accent into an American drawl with the aid of a dialect coach, Joan Washington.

Twanging guitars: His first taste of fame arrived at ten, when Jimmy Savile fixed it for him to strum *Guitar Boogie Shuffle* alongside Bert Weedon. "I ended up performing with him at summer shows in Skegness, Scarborough and Bridlington."

One-man band: His father, a fitter, and mother, a school-dinner lady, first thrust a six-string into his hands when he was six. Now he also plays accordion, bass, keyboards, drums and trombone.

"Way to go, dude!" His third musical, *Bill and Ted's Excellent Musical Adventure*, based on the 1989 film comedy and co-written with friends Gene Jacobs and Mick Walsh (both also 24), is due to open in the West End in autumn 1999.



Whom would his singing remind you of? "My voice is a cross between George Michael and Roland Orzabal of Tears For Fears."

DANIEL ROSENTHAL

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THEATRE: Timberlake Wertenbaker tells **Daniel Rosenthal** why she dropped the singing algae from *After Darwin*

The always original of the species

We should probably be thankful that Timberlake Wertenbaker's new play about Charles Darwin has evolved radically from its original incarnation. Seven years ago, her first, unproduced version of *After Darwin* placed the great naturalist alongside singing whales and, er, a chorus of algae. "I don't know what I thought I was doing," Wertenbaker recalls, with mild embarrassment. "It was just one of those things you write and then put away in a drawer."

In the completely rewritten script about to be premiered in London, the sea creatures have disappeared, but the finest relationship, that between Darwin and Robert FitzRoy, the captain of *HMS Beagle*, has survived. The dramatic conflict between the two men who began their historic, five-year voyage in 1831 as friends was what first drew Wertenbaker to Darwin's story.

> "I'd like to write a play that traces my cultural, not genetic, inheritance"

In *After Darwin*, she shows the gulf between them deepening at key moments during the Beagle's journey: Darwin (Jason Watkins) is an abolitionist Whig whose Christianity is thrillingly challenged by the finches, fossils and other evidence of evolution he collects in South America; FitzRoy (Michael Feast) is a pro-slavery Tory whose unquestioning faith in God and Creation makes him condemn Darwin's theories as the Devil's work, thus inadvertently galvanising Darwin's belief in natural selection. Despite going on to become governor of New Zealand, FitzRoy considered himself a failure, and died ridden with guilt for his part in shaping Darwin's ideas. He was, Wertenbaker suggests, "a tragic figure, unfairly forgotten by history".

After Darwin does not belong exclusively to this historical pair. In plays such as *Our Country's Good*, or her 1991 satire on modern art, *Three Birds Alighting On A Field*, Wertenbaker has never been content to introduce one major theme where three or four will serve, and it would have been "too easy and too old-fashioned" to concentrate only on the confrontation between two men. "That's fine if you want to provide an easy evening, but is inadequate if you want to be a bit more challenging," she says. "It's much more interesting to me to ask what Darwinism means to us now."

Her answers emerge in scenes set in London, 1998, involving English actors, a Turkish-Bulgarian director and an American academic. The present-day plot deals with an idea voiced by the zoologist, Richard Dawkins, and expressed by Lawrence, *After Darwin*'s academic, as follows: "Human beings have come to the end of their evolution . . . but we will never come to the end of our imagination."

Wertenbaker elaborates: "Physical evolution has ended, in that we are not suddenly going to develop three heads, but culture is evolving as powerfully as genetic evolution used to." The behaviour of one of *After Darwin*'s contemporary characters reflects Wertenbaker's desire "to look at people who are basically amoral, and who perhaps reveal a modern misunderstanding of Darwinism by believing it is right to do everything for the self."

Such men and women are not After Darwin's only targets. Like David Hare in *Amy's View*, Wertenbaker uses theatrical characters to celebrate theatrical values and put the boot into film, in particular its glib violence and comparatively narrow range of stories. She makes no apologies for the assault ("Film's doing very well, and certainly doesn't need playwrights to defend it"), although, by chance, it comes at a time when her professional relationship with the big screen may finally be about to blossom.

Ever mindful of the vast financial rewards offered by film, she has written an adaptation of Edith Wharton's *The Children* (filmed with Ben Kingsley in 1990, but not widely seen) and "a number of original screenplays which have been produced, but not with my name on them". She recently adapted another classic novel, only to find her script jettisoned when the original director was replaced and another writer hired. The film's subsequent success was maddening. "I finally realised I don't have the thick skin you need as a writer to survive in film. It just isn't worth the trouble - even for lots of money."



SUZANNE HUBBARD

Timberlake Wertenbaker shares the view that "Human beings have come to the end of their evolution . . . but we will never come to the end of our imagination"

Now, however, *Our Country's Good*, her Olivier Award-winning account of Botany Bay convicts performing Farquhar's *The Recruiting Officer* in 1788, is to be filmed in Australia, produced by Ismail Merchant and directed by Sydney-born Bruce Beresford from Wertenbaker's screenplay. After so many unsatisfying experiences with film, working with Beresford has already proved "a joy, because he has the same seriousness as a theatre director".

Her profile is rising after three lean years" which began when her last play, *The Break of Day*, was greeted with almost uniformly scathing reviews.

She still finds it difficult to talk about these "devastating" verdicts on her work, and retains a "horror of any kind of exposure". Now in her early forties, and married to the broadcaster and travel writer John Man, her reluctance to answer personal questions stems, she says, from a multinational, multilingual background.

Her evocative first name belonged to a great-great-grandmother from Virginia, but she cannot identify the exact origin, or meaning of her surname. She was born in New York, then flew back to the Basque country with her Anglo-French parents, both novelists, when she was a week old. She grew up speaking English, French and Basque, went to university in America, spent a year in Greece and finally settled in England in the late Seventies. Confused? She is. "Am I English, American, French or Basque? The truth is I don't know. Wertenbakers have been criss-crossing the Atlantic for about 200 years, searching for the ideal social stage, and I've inherited that restlessness. I'd like to write a play that traces my cultural, as opposed to my genetic, inheritance."

Darwin would surely have approved.

● *After Darwin previews from July 8 at the Hampstead Theatre, NW1 (0171-722 9301)*

REVIEWS: A classic piece of early 1980s kitchen-sink realism is revived in Leeds; while New York enjoys two new musicals



MARILYN KINGWILL

Three in a tangle: Thomas Craig, Hannah Storey and Michelle Abrahams in Andrea Dunbar's *Rita, Sue and Bob Too*

Lives at the gritty end

Rita, Sue and Bob Too
Leeds

When the Royal Court thinks of reviving more of its in-house "classics" — recall those fine productions of Ron Hutchinson's *Rat in the Skull* and David Storey's *Changing Room* a few months ago? — it should put Andrea Dunbar's tale of life among the Yorkshire babysitting classes on its list. It is a raucous and (some may feel) offensive piece. But, as Natasha Betteridge's vividly acted revival confirms, it has a commodity not always on display when Sloane Square dramatists write about the working classes: first-hand life.

That is hardly surprising, given Dunbar's background. She was 15, pregnant and living on Bradford's tough Buttershaw estate when she wrote her first play, *The Arbor*, which was about being 15, pregnant and surviving on the Buttershaw estate. It was a huge success at the Court in 1980, and *Rita, Sue and Bob Too* did even better when it appeared there in 1982. As for Dunbar, she had three children by three men, and died in a Bradford pub of a brain haemorrhage in 1990, when she was 29.

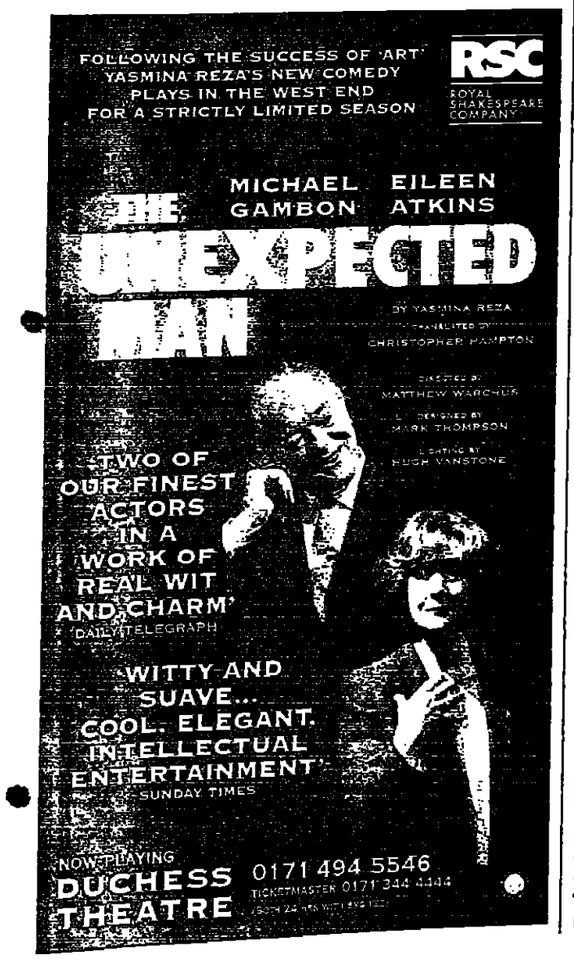
In his preface to the text, Rob Ritchie regrets that her work ended up being performed for metropolitan sophisticates. Playing to Bradford audiences would have been "a match seen from the terraces, not the members' stand". Well, Leeds is not Bradford, nor was the West Yorkshire Playhouse exactly packed with tattooed folk singing *Vindaloo*. But did I err when I sensed a tolerant, knowing quality in the laughter that greeted the unabashed sexual cavortings which began the evening? A Dunbar play had belatedly come home, or as near to that urban anthill as it is likely to get.

That first scene occurs in a red Ford, numberplate BOB 1, perched in the Yorkshire moorland conveniently hovering above the shabby kitchens and tacky living rooms where the play is mostly set. Michelle Abrahams's Rita and Hannah Storey's Sue are giggly 15-year-olds, best friends and regular babysitters for Thomas Craig's blunt Bob and his pretty but frigid wife, Suzanne Hitchmough's Michelle. And how do the girls react when he interrupts the drive home to ask them leading questions? In a cheerfully matter-of-fact, no-nonsense way. In a moment legs and bottoms are flashing and condoms dropping from the car window as the serial fun begins as it means to continue.

Rows follow, involving a father so drunk he can hardly stand, an aggrieved wife and, eventually, a jealous Sue and a pregnant Rita. The language of moral accusation bangs about, but only when one misused woman turns to another and declares that all men "need shooting for the trouble they cause" do you feel that Dunbar herself might share their views.

She was the bard of the Leeds-Bradford jungle, and always apter to celebrate than condemn the more resilient animal life inside it. Her work, and especially this play, is brash, unsentimental, unpreachy, funny and true. The West Yorkshire Playhouse has done well to remind us that it is there for the reviving.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



A touch too cerebral

NEW YORK SHOWS

Hard on the heels of the Tony Awards, two noteworthy musicals have launched the new season early. In William Finn's **A New Brain** at Lincoln Centre, Gordon Schwinn's agent Rhoda urges him to "write the Spring Song/ write the Yes Song". Malcolm Gets's prickly, overworked composer has been struggling with his creations for Mr Bungee, the talking-frog host of a children's show.

However, Gordon's problem is not a mental block. He suddenly collapses, and in hospital a doctor diagnoses a build-up of fluid in his cranium and promises him "a new brain", presumably with a new perspective on the world.

Finn's through-sung, hallucinatory meditation on life, love and work among stylish New Yorkers cuts close to the bone, and therein lie both its flaws and strengths. A week after winning two Tonys for *Falsettos* in 1992, Finn was similarly hospitalised. His themes — people are more important than work, life is fleeting — are obvious to anyone with half an old brain, and he has only fitfully transformed it into something memorable.

One feels in the work the earnestness and urgency of a prophet: he tends to strain for rhymes, like "doozy" and "Uzi". The show feels piecemeal, despite many bright moments, such as Penny Fuller's doting suburban mum musing "why is the smart one/always the gay son?"

Gets lights up a stage when he smiles and dances, but for stretches he has to look solemn with his head bandaged. Anger and disappointment bubble up as Gordon mulls his relationships with family, his sailing-mad lover Roger (a pallid, vocally ragged Christopher Innvar), and Chip Zien's slave-driving Mr Bungee, who bicycles into Gordon's visions wearing a yellow tailcoat over a frog suit (by Toni-Leslie James).

The director/choreographer Graciela Daniele has created energetic dances, including one in which the chorus of minister, doctor, and nurses perform seated (which nonetheless echoes *The Will Rogers Follies*).

Her staging is equally inventive: as Gordon recalls his gambling father, the chorus uses walkers to mimic horses in the starting gate. But parts of the book by Finn and co-writer James Lapine flounder in sentiment.

A gruff homeless woman — sort of a choral leader — may be someone the writers want to know better, but when Roger pours his heart out to her and they walk off arm in arm, you may feel that they inhabit some parallel universe instead of the real world.

The world of **As Thousands Cheer**, a 1933 musical revue by Moss Hart and Irving Berlin, is just as distant. In a foyer display at the Greenwich Theatre for the revival by the acclaimed Drama Dept collective, parallels are drawn with modern satirical TV shows, but only once does this "living newspaper" show a strong pulse.

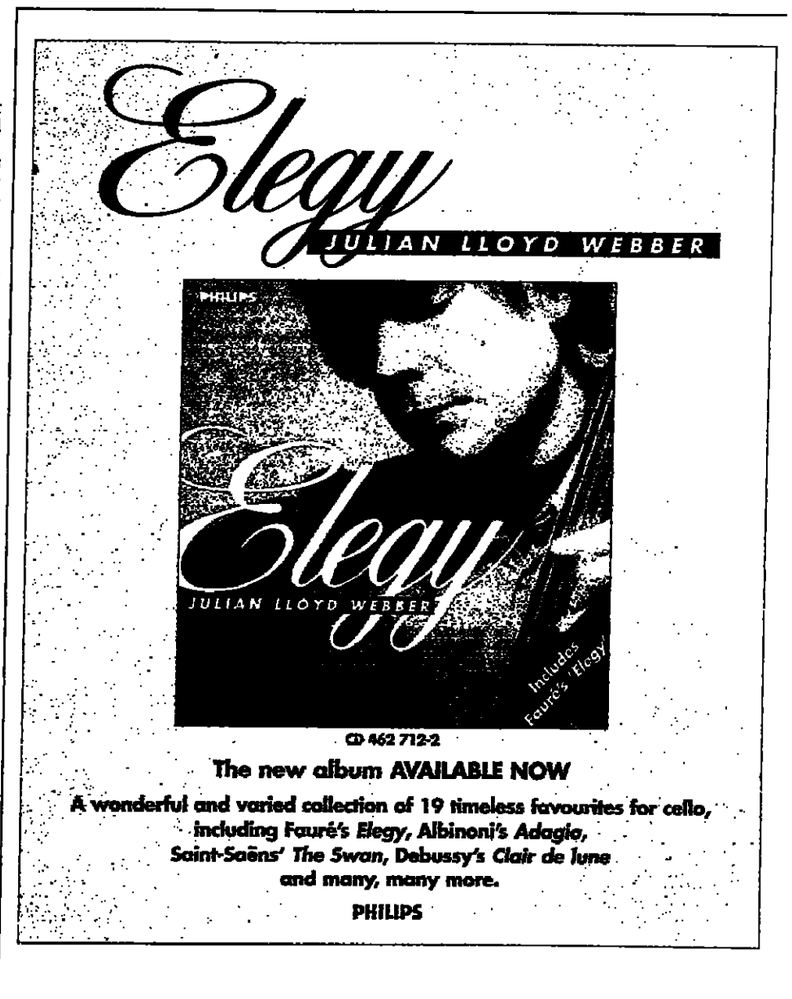
That's when Paula Newsome, as a black woman lamenting that her lynched man won't be coming home, connects *Supper Time* to the horror in Texas.

Several situations, such as Douglas Fairbanks Jr and Joan Crawford squabbling about the billing on their divorce, still work passably. But Hart's skits depend so much on ephemeral incidents that it's a show for nostalgia buffs.

The lack of miking in the tiny downtown space reveals a couple of weak voices, but everyone is game, particularly Howard McGillin, in top form exhibiting a charming world-weariness. Best of all is Kevin Chamberlin, bullet-headed and rotund.

Whether playing a snarling pooch or a lovesick chauffeur, he announces himself as a star character actor.

EDWARD KARAM



c. A battle | Answers on page 46 | Solution on page 46

LISTINGS
Big-screen Beethoven

ARTS

TOMORROW
New movies reviewed

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by James Christopher

LONDON

THE ACADEMY OF ANCIENT MUSIC: Paul Goodwin directs the world premiere of John Tavener's *Eternity Sunrise*, inspired by the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. It is a tribute to "hope and transcendence". The bill also features music by Purcell and Tavener's *Song of the Angel* and *Sappho*.
St Andrew Holborn, EC4 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm.

THE CHANGELING: Tassos Stevens, first recipient of the James Menzies-Kitchin Award, directs this blood-soaked Jacobean tragedy
BAC (Studio 1), SW11 (0171-223 2223) Tonight, 7.30pm. Until July 19

FIDELIO: Live transmission to a giant screen in the courtyard of Somerset House of the Vienna State Opera's production of Beethoven's prison and politics story. Standing only. Admission free by ticket; but possible to gain entry on the day from 7.30pm.
Somerset House (0171-420 0014). Tonight, 8pm.

GEORGE BENSON: The legendary R&B man relives his greatest moments.
Royal Albert Hall, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight, 7.30pm.

WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND: The new Lloyd Webber megamusical, inspired by the much-loved film but relocated to Louisiana. Stars Marcus Lovett and Lottie Mayor. Gale Edwards directs.
Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003) Opens tonight, 7pm.



John Tavener composes music for Diana, Princess of Wales

Festival Theatre (01243 781312). Preview tonight, 7.30pm

LEEDS: Keith Prowse's lavish production of Guiseppe Verdi's opera, Joan of Arc, stars Susannah Glenville and the young Australian tenor, Julian Gavin. Richard Farnes conducts this co-production by the Royal Opera House and Theatre in Pfalzbau, Ludwigshafen.
Leeds Grand Theatre (0113 222 6222). Tonight, 7.15pm.

MANCHESTER: Owain Arwel Hughes conducts *A Night at the Ballet, a musical fiesta with ever-popular slices* of Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Khachaturian and Stravinsky.
Bridgewater Hall (0161-907 9000). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

CHICHESTER: Mark Kingston, *Dinsdale Landen and Denis Quilley star* in Sir David Hare's award-winning drama, *Racing Demon*, turning a scathing spotlight on the modern Church of England. Christopher Morahan directs

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only ◪ Some seats available ☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE:** Paula Vogel's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama is full of breathless tension as an adolescent girl (Helen McCrory) is seduced by her uncle Peck (Kevin Whately) while learning how to drive.
Donmar Warehouse, WC2 (0171-369 1732). ◪

■ **THE ICEMAN COMETH:** Kevin Spacey plays Hickey in Howard Davies's magnificent Almeida production.
Old Vic, SE1 (0171-928 7616).

☐ **THE LOST VEGAS SERIES:** Award-winning play by Julie Jensen tracing the truly bizarre wanderings of a cocktail waitress in the Neon Desert, joined by Creepy Guy, Sexy Guy and Campy Guy.
Riverside Studios, W6 (0181-237 1111) Until July 12. ◪

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: Cheek By Jowl's fascinating swansong. Perceptive playing gives the gay elements in the Bard's sex-war comedy convincing relevance. Declan Donnellan directs

Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (0171-839 4401). ◪

☐ **THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD:** New David Mamet play, ingeniously constructed, revealing the persistent influence of past upon present. Exciting cast includes Diana Quick, Zoe Wanamaker, Patrick Marber directs.
Duke of York's (0171-565 5000). ◪

◪ **THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE:** Fiona Shaw is ridiculous and magnificent as the visionary schoolmistress who fills her adoring initiates full of great culture and dangerous ideas. Phyllida Lloyd directs a sparky revision by Jay Presson Allen of Muriel Spark's original.
National Theatre, Lyttelton (0171-452 3000). ◪

☐ **THE POSSESSED:** Epic dramatisation of Dostoyevsky's novel, performed in three parts by the Maly Drama Theatre of St Petersburg, adapted and directed by Lev Dodin. With English surtitles. Part 2, tonight.
Barbican, EC2 (0171-638 8891). ◪

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

Geoff Brown's choice of the best movies

NEW RELEASES

GIRLS' NIGHT (15): Gruesome British comedy with tears, with Julie Walters and Brenda Blethyn as best friends who win the bingo jackpot but cannot avoid death from cancer. With Kris Kristofferson. Director, Nick Hurran.

JOURNEY TO THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD (U): A film director (Marcello Mastroianni in his last performance) journeys into the Portuguese past. A tender, reflective beauty from veteran director Manoel de Oliveira.

MIMIC (15): Mutant insects infest New York City's subway system. Atmospheric horror film from Mexican director Guillermo del Toro.

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15): Jennifer Aniston hopes her gay room-mate will help bring up her baby. Decent and traditional romantic comedy with a few extra trimmings. With Paul Rudd, Nigel Hawthorne. Director, Nicholas Hytner.

PALMETTO (15): Woody Harrelson gets sucked into a fake kidnapping. Mechanical film noir that tries too hard to be sultry, with Elisabeth Shue and Gina Gershon. Director, Volker Schlondorff.

PONETTE (PG): Extraordinary voyage into a grieving child's mind, from French director Jacques Doillon, with an award-winning performance from four-year-old Victoire Thivisol.

CURRENT

THE APOSTLE (12): Engrossing portrait of a flawed Pentecostal preacher, memorably portrayed by Robert Duvall, who also writes and directs. With Miranda Richardson, Farrah Fawcett.

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18): The Coen brothers' dishevelled spoof of Raymond Chandler's thrillers: very funny in spots. With Jeff Bridges, John Goodman and Julianne Moore.

CITY OF ANGELS (12): Restless angel Nicolas Cage falls for heart surgeon Meg Ryan. Intelligent romantic drama, inspired by Wim Wenders's *Wings of Desire*. Director, Brad Silberling.

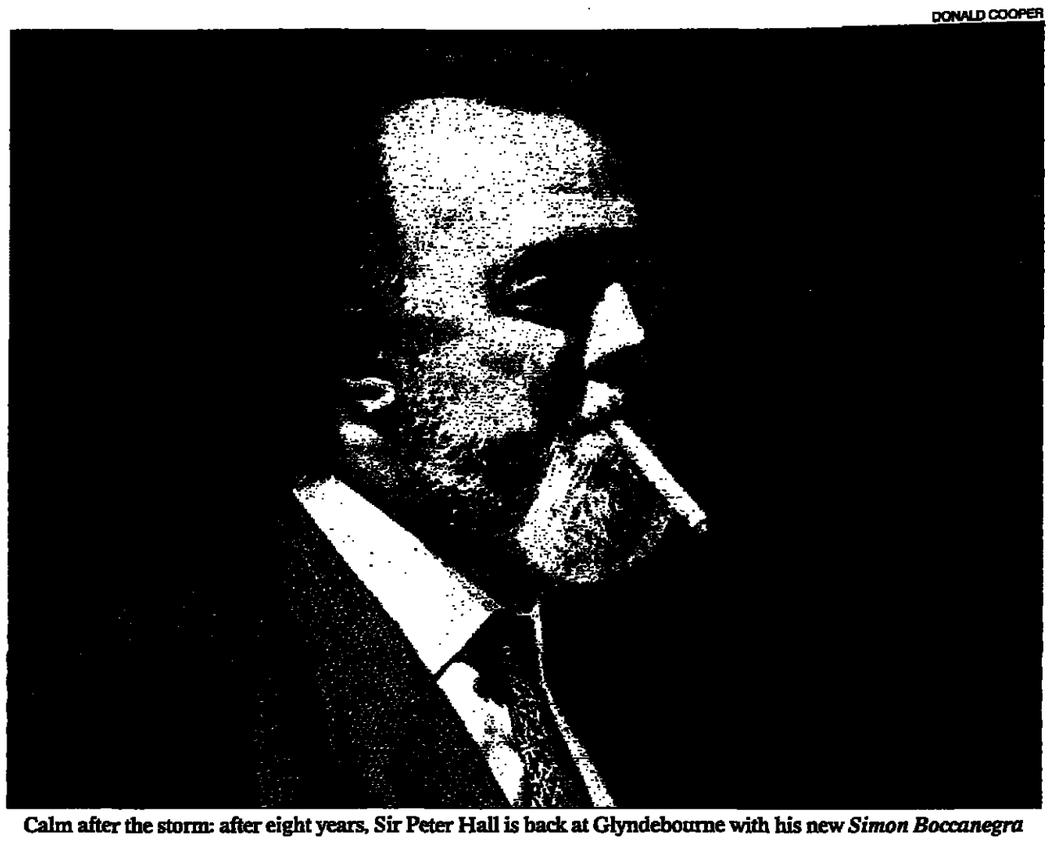
THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE (15): Teenage life and loves of Beat Generation legend Neal Cassady. Hip, impressionistic, worshipful film, with Thomas Jane and Keanu Reeves. Director, Stephen Kay.

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15): Overly broad parody of Merchant Ivory films, with Phoebe Cates as the virginal Edwardian heroine who discovers sex. With Prunella Scales, Peter Ustinov.

The old boss back on song

John Higgins talks to Sir Peter Hall about why he has returned to Glyndebourne

DONALD COOPER



Calm after the storm: after eight years, Sir Peter Hall is back at Glyndebourne with his new *Simon Boccanegra*

Sir Peter Hall is back at Glyndebourne, the house he left under a thundercloud eight seasons ago. The cause of the acrimony was a production there by Peter Sellars of *The Magic Flute*. Sellars set the piece on a Los Angeles freeway and removed its spoken dialogue. Many members of the Glyndebourne audience held Hall, who had been artistic director at the festival for six years, personally responsible.

"I had a shoal of letters demanding to know how I, who had been preaching non-stop the doctrine of total regard for the composer's wishes, could have endorsed such an approach. The simple answer was that I hadn't. The decision to cut the dialogue was taken late in rehearsals and the first I knew of it was on opening night. I was made to look a bit of a Charlie. The only option was to go."

Glyndebourne's loss turned out to mean the loss of Hall to opera in Britain. He staged his own *Magic Flute* in Los Angeles in 1993 but, apart from a couple of revivals, has since kept clear of the lyric stage. There was, though, the *Fidelio* affair in the mid-1990s, planned as a co-production between Covent Garden and the Rome Opera.

"After I had arrived in Rome to start rehearsals, the stage staff decided to black the production because the scenery had been built in Britain. I thought the stage staff's reaction was both corrupt and unprofessional, and I said so. 'Ah,' said my Roman friends, 'corrupt we understand, but unprofessional? Never.' Anyhow, it didn't happen, either in Rome or in London.

"So there is £250,000 worth of *Fidelio* scenery in a warehouse in Wales. Bernard Haitink and I have talked about doing it when the new Covent Garden reopens, but no approach has been made."

Offers of other productions have come in regularly, but Hall has turned them all down. "Opera contracts are like great slabs of concrete set two, three, four years in advance. You can't budge them as you can in the theatre or in film. And they rarely offer you the right rehearsal time."

So why has he now accepted the Glyndebourne bait of Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra*, which opens on Saturday? "Because the very things that I have just mentioned are there. Plenty of preparation time is at hand, singers are not allowed days off for engagements elsewhere and the theatrical element is still considered to be as important as the musical one.

"Then on a personal level I could not let past acrimony stand in the way. When the break came, George [Christie] and I had been very good friends for 20 years. I had done 14 new productions for Glyndebourne and countless revivals. There had to be a time when we would be friends again. So when he rang me three years ago to see if I would consider coming back, I said, 'Ask me'.

"He did. And he suggested a reworking of my 1986 *Boccanegra* for the new house. I replied that *Boccanegra* was fine, but no reworking, because I have forgotten most of what I did then. And when you are faced with an entirely new set of principals, let alone a new theatre, you must begin from the beginning."

How successful does Hall feel that first *Boccanegra* was? "I think it was quite a bold attempt to put a very grand opera onto a very small stage. There were moments which were very effective when the right principals were together. Half of the cast was superb and the other half was catastrophic, but I'm certainly not going to say who fell into which category."

However, Hall's new *Boccanegra* is not without its teething difficulties either. This week one leading singer (Michael Sylvester, singing the role of Gabriele Adorno) dropped out of the cast.

Boccanegra is one of the most precisely dated of Verdi's operas. The Prologue takes place in 1339 with the rest of the opera continuing 25 years later. But Hall argues against what he calls "historicity", saying that overauthenticity detracts from the drama.

"Precise historical detail should not be used as a stage refuge. The first job in staging opera is to reflect the music and *Boccanegra* was not written in the 14th century.

"Moreover, I regard it as one of Verdi's most mysterious works. It has much the same place in his canon as the late plays do in Shakespeare's. The conversational opening of the Prologue is just like the start of *Cymbeline*. At times the plot is almost surreal. Take the last act. Offstage the Guelphs are being defeated, onstage Fiesco is being restored to power and Paolo led off to prison. *Boccanegra is dying of poison.* Meanwhile the tenor and soprano are getting married. All within about three minutes of music — cross-cutting well before cinema was invented."

Hall's next Verdi won't be until after the millennium. There will be an *Otello* at the Chicago Opera, with Ben Heppner in the title role. One unbudgeable slab of concrete every couple of years, Hall reckons, is about enough.

Before going back to rehearsals, he leaves a message for the editor of this page. "Will you please ask him to stop using the word 'luvvies' in his Friday column. It is an ugly legacy of Thatcherdom. It was first applied when Richard Luce, the Arts Minister at the time, described me as 'a theatrical luvvie with a welfare-state mentality'." Watch this space.

● Simon Boccanegra *opens at Glyndebourne (01273 813813)* on Saturday

A gem set off to perfection

CONCERT

Purcell Quartet, Elizabethan Theatre, Barbican

All you need, apparently, to run classical music in Europe is a glass of tea, an ashtray and a telephone. But only if you are Peter Diamand. That is how Sir John Drummond remembered him, that doyen of entrepreneurs, best known for his years as the director of the Edinburgh Festival between 1965 and 1978, but also sometime private secretary to the pianist Artur Schnabel, inspirer of new music at the Holland Festival and, until his death last January, artistic adviser to the Orchestre de Paris.

A gala concert at the Barbican paid eloquent tribute to Diamand, both in the music and in the presence of, four musicians who had reason to hold him in particular esteem: Daniel Barenboim, Radu Lupu, Teresa Berganza and Claudio Abbado. The fact that the proceeds of the concert will launch a memorial fund is further testimony to the affection in which Diamand was held.

That affection purled out of an irresistible performance by Barenboim, Lupu and the English Chamber Orchestra of Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos in E flat. Lupu was the darker, more questing voice; Barenboim the proactive master of ceremonies. The slow movement from one of Mozart's duet-sonatas, which they gave as an encore, epitomised the gently affectionate quality of the evening's music-making.

Lupu's hushed and introspective three Brahms *Intermezzi* were the still point of the manically turning musical world described in Drummond's breathless ten-minute spoken tribute and glimpsed in Berganza's *Cruda sorte* aria from Rossini's *L'Italiana in Algieri*. A dark murmur of a *habanera*, artful in its controlled volatility, showed that Berganza can still, 20 years on, be a bird nobody can tame.

If Lupu's Brahms provided the evening's beating heart then, in the ECO's performance of two extracts from Schubert's incidental music to *Rosamunde*, Abbado touched its nerves. These were minutely sentient performances, articulated with reverent but sometimes mischievous understatement. Diamand might have enjoyed that best of all.

HILARY FINCH

Fruits of the forest

Purcell Quartet, Elizabethan Theatre, Barbican

EVERYONE going to a concert at Grizedale (not far from Hawkshead in the Lake District) should make the time to take a walk in the forest first. The quiet and the birdsong are the perfect preparation for listening to music — particularly if Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du temps* is on the programme. The integrity of the experience might be threatened by an Italian opera tape playing in the bar, or even in the auditorium itself, and the acoustic is not enormously encouraging either. But something of the atmosphere outside the Theatre in the Forest survives on the inside even so.

The Psappha instrumentalists seemed to feel it too. The clarinet birdsong of *Abime des oiseaux* in the Messiaen *Quatuor* was phrased and coloured as though to communicate with the outside, just as the long cello line in the fifth movement was drawn as though to project onto the silence of the late evening. It was not a perfectly finished performance. The problems of control in the sustained slow movements tended to lead either to excessive vibrato or to failures in focusing pitch and sound. But some of the textures, notably those of the highly poetic first movement, were sensitively and skilfully realised and the many unisons were executed with the confidence exclusive to musicians who understand each other.

With the Messiaen in the second half and Bartók's *Contrasts* and Debussy's Cello Sonata before the interval, it was not one of Psappha's most challenging programmes. The concert did begin, however, with a well chosen and comparatively recent work by Piers Hellawell, a clarinet trio named after that unlikely American town called *Truth and Consequences*.

Although it was inspired by the abstract implications of the title rather than the kind of thinking that led a community to identify itself with a television game show, the composer should try exporting it to New Mexico. A highly entertaining piece which is particularly resourceful in finding percussive ways of profiling its rhythmic ingenuity — tapping on the wood of the cello, playing on muffled strings in the piano — it could well appeal there too.

They might even buy it as their own *Truth and Consequences* theme tune.

GERALD LARNER

ART GALLERIES

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RACING: TOTE CHAIRMAN UNVEILS NEW BET ON ANNIVERSARY

Jones seeks Trifecta dividend

By Chris McGrath

APPROACHING the first anniversary of his appointment as Tote chairman, an office he has refreshed with a certain sense of adventure, Peter Jones yesterday invited punters to show something similar in their response to a new bet, the Trifecta. It is almost as though the enterprise shrouded by his own unpretentious style — and, indeed, by his very name — should be treated as a model for the punter, whose British incarnation is prey to such dogged conservatism of habit and aspiration.

The Trifecta is designed to lure tentative "win and place" punters into sharing the more exotic instincts of their fellows in Australia and the United States, where a bet of the same name is central to the quest for a substantial return for minimal risk. The wager, which will be launched with a £100,000 guarantee for the Vodafone Stewards' Cup at Goodwood on August 1, requires punters to name the first three home in the correct order.

Effectively, the Trifecta is a pool-bet rival to that nebulous contrivance, the tricast. It replaces the Tote Trio, which is based on nominating the first three in any order, but has become increasingly anonymous since its launch in 1991. The Trio's demise is attributed to its lack of focus, whereas the Trifecta will — to begin with, at any rate — be restricted to the big betting race of each day, generally the Showcase handicap.

"We want to capture two markets," Jones said. "We want to offer the more occasional punter the chance of a good dividend for a small stake; on the other hand, we want the more professionally-minded punter to feel that there is a skill element, giving him an edge over less committed contributors to the pool. With potential for roll-overs, these bets can develop great momentum."

The Trifecta will be available only through those shops with Tote Direct terminals — offering further erosion, perhaps, of William Hill's Canute-like stance against their tidal implementation across half the off-course market.

Jones feels that the Trifecta will soon exhaust the Tricast's credibility; expecting to beat it "about three times in four". He is anticipating a £10,000 pool even in midweek, and for dividends to range from £200 to over £10,000.



Jones: fresh ideas

In Australia, the Trifecta accounts for a quarter of Tote turnover, but British punters will doubtless need time to accustom themselves to the range of options — sophisticated or bewildering, depending on their point of view — on the voucher. Either way, there is no doubting the energy of the new Tote regime's evangelism. "We see the Trifecta as the first stage in a revamp of all Tote bets," Jones said, adding that deliberations continue on three alternatives for the holy grail of a "superbet".

"We are looking towards March for the introduction of what we're calling the Saturday Special," he said. The progress of yesterday's innovation will, in the meantime, provide a tangible test of the substance underpinning the undoubted revolution in style since Jones replaced the late Lord Wyatt.

Many found it hard to perceive the substance of Kieren Fallon's offence when the Curragh stewards saw fit to suspend the Irish-born jockey for careless riding on his homecoming last Sunday. Though he did everything within his considerable powers to keep Memorise from drifting across his beaten opponent in the Curragh Cup, he was banned for three days, including the last two of next week's July meeting. It seems perfectly sensible to have asked for an appeal, which will be heard on Monday.

It is 12 months since Fallon turned the odds-on defeat of Bosra Sham in the Coral-Eclipse into a springboard for the championship charge that so confounded the ignorance of his critics. Hot favourite for this year's renewal, at Sandown on Saturday, is Daylami, the mount of Frankie Dettori. However, yesterday William Hill clients stayed loyal to his stablemate and Royal Ascot conqueror, Faithful Son (5-1 from 7-1), who will again be partnered by John Reid. Poteen will run under new ownership, carrying the colours of Gary Tanaka.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Mandilak
(8.10 Kempton Park)

Mandilak has improved since last year and, after a listed race success in Milan, was unlucky not to land a group event in Rome when colliding with the rails. He can gain compensation here.

NB: Kadaka
(6.25 Yarmouth)

REDCAR

THUNDERER

2.15 Belle Of Hearts. 2.45 Ouaisne. 3.15 Days Of Grace. 3.45 Moving Princess. 4.15 Thanks Keith. 4.45 Culcraggie. 5.15 Durham Flyer.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW 5F-7F, LOW BEST SIS

2.15 SIMONSIDE MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,388: 5f) (13 runners)

1 403 DOUBLE TWO 14 (B) T Easterby 8-10 ... L Charnock 11
2 0202 NORTHERN SVENGALI 9 (BF) T Barron 8-10 ... J Fortune 4
3 36 DARRAS SKY 40 Miss S Hall 8-7 ... J Carroll 13
4 423 HEATHYARDS JAKE 14 R Hollinshead 8-7 ... A McCarthy (3) 5
5 SONGINO E Alston 8-7 ... G Duffield 8
6 003 RED VENUS 13 (V) J Berry 8-5 ... P Fessey 2
7 500 SHALARI 28 J Eyre 8-5 ... R Lappin 9
8 CASMIR A Scott 8-4 ... K Darley 1
9 05 PANDJOJOE 61 R Fahey 8-4 ... A Culhane 6
10 MOUNTAIN BIRD M Brittain 8-2 ... D Mernagh (7) 7
11 02 BELLE OF HEARTS 15 M Peill 7-12 ... E Johnson 10
12 53 CODICIL 16 Mrs J Ramsden 7-13 ... W Supple 12
13 LADY ANNABEL C Fairhurst 7-13 ... R Winston (5) 3

11-4 Heathyards Jake, 7-2 Codicil, 6-1 Northern Svengali, Red Venus, 8-1 others.

2.45 SOUTH SHIELDS STAKES (£2,416: 6f) (12)

1 0605 CUMBRIAN CADET 8 (F) T Easterby 3-9-13 ... K Darley 10
2 -000 OUAISNE 15 (C,G) R Guest 3-8-13 ... L Charnock 2
3 -004 SANDSIDE 7 (B,C,F,G,S) J Berry 3-8-12 ... C Lowther 7
4 40-0 ARAB GOLD 62 Miss S Hall 3-9-9 ... J Fortune 6
5 -026 QUIZ MASTER 7 (B,BF) E Weymes 3-8-9 ... W Supple 9
6 0056 WHACKER-DO 9 R Hollinshead 3-8-7 ... J Carroll 3
7 02-0 PATSY CULSYTH 51 (V,S) N Tinkler 3-8-6 ... Kim Tinkler 1
8 65-0 NIGHT AUCTION 34 B Palling 3-8-4 ... M Fenton 12
9 00-0 SANDY SHORE 36 J Hetherton 3-8-4 ... G Duffield 8
10 6500 BOW BELLS 23 (B) C Wall 3-8-2 ... J Lowe 5
11 0206 DANCE TO THE BEAT 21 (B,D) M Meade 3-8-0 ... F Norton 4
12 5-00 RAAZI 15 R Fahey 3-7-12 ... G Egan (7) 11

7-2 Ouaisne, 5-1 Cumbrian Cadet, Bow Bells, 6-1 Quiz Master, 7-1 others.

3.15 ANDERSONS ACCOUNTANTS HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,730: 6f) (10)

1 3300 MANTLES PRIDE 18 (F) P Calver 9-7 ... J Carroll 1
2 6205 BUZZ 33 (S) C Thornton 9-6 ... Dean McKeown 9
3 -253 GRAND ESTATE 11 (B,BF,D,G) T Easterby 9-5 ... K Darley 3
4 5000 ARIAN DA 11 (F) B Palling 9-5 ... M Fenton 4
5 -000 PETER'S IMP 7 (B,D,F) J Berry 9-2 ... C Lowther 5
6 -061 RAY OF SUNSHINE 15 (D,S) Mrs J Ramsden 9-1 ... S D Williams 7
7 1046 PIPS SONG 11 (D) Dr J Scargill 9-0 ... J Quinn 8
8 2-00 SURPRISED 14 Mrs J Ramsden 8-12 ... J Fortune 2
9 00-0 COOL PROSPECT 75 K Ryan 8-5 ... R Winston (5) 10
10 -054 DAYS OF GRACE 11 (C,F) M Meade 8-2 ... F Norton 6

3-1 Grand Estate, 4-1 Ray Of Sunshine, 6-1 Pips Song, 7-1 others.

3.45 YORKSHIRE HANDICAP (£5,162: 1m 2f) (6)

1 50-3 MOVING PRINCESS 46 Miss S Hall 5-9-7 ... J Carroll 3
2 -430 HOWIES CHOICE 46 M Britain 3-9-7 ... G Carter 6
3 000- FREE 194 Mrs M Reveley 3-9-5 ... A Culhane 2
4 60-0 REPTON 21 Mrs A Swinbank 3-9-4 ... G Duffield 5
5 5-00 MY BET 51 M W Easterby 3-8-2 ... B Parlin 4
6 000 ELSA DAWN 37 N Bycroft 3-7-10 ... L Charnock 1

5-4 Moving Princess, 9-4 Howies Choice, 11-2 My Bet, 7-1 Free, 10-1 others.

4.15 RED CROSS HANDICAP (£2,514: 1m 6f) (6)

1 0021 HIGHFIELD FIZZ 9 (CD,F,S) C Fairhurst 6-10-2 (6ex) K Darley 6
2 0-60 ROYAL CITIZEN 6 (G) J Hetherton 9-9-7 ... J Lowe 2
3 4012 SEMI CIRCLE 13 (B,G,S) T Easterby 5-8-10 ... L Charnock 1
4 0-01 TREASURE ISLAND 7 (S) M Prescott 3-8-7 (6ex) G Duffield 5
5 4525 THANKS KEITH 7 (B,BF) J J O'Neill 5-8-6 ... P Fessey 4
6 0-0 JABAROOT 33 (F) M Chapman 7-7-11 ... F Norton 3

2-4 Semi Circle, 11-4 Treasure Island, 3-1 Highfield Fizz, 5-1 others.

4.45 LANGBAURGH HANDICAP (£3,288: 1m 3f) (14)

1 34-0 BADDI QUEST 7 M Wane 6-10-0 ... R Lappin 4
2 53-3 KAMEEZ 88 M Johnston 3-9-11 ... J Carroll 14
3 04-3 ISABELLA GONZAGA 28 R Lowell 4-9-11 ... G Carter 9
4 0-66 COALMINERSDAUGHTER 26 J Hills 3-9-4 ... K Darley 13
5 -600 SMART SPIRIT 11 Mrs M Reveley 4-9-0 ... A Culhane 12
6 00-0 ALBRIGHTON 43 C Thornton 3-8-13 ... M Fenton 5
7 -635 CULCRAGGIE 16 J Eyre 3-8-12 ... O Pears 11
8 00-4 SABRE BUTT 7 (B) M Tompkins 3-8-8 ... J Fortune 2
9 000- BERBIE'S STAR 225J N Bycroft 4-8-4 ... G Duffield 7
10 000 DOUBTFUL STEP 14 T Easterby 3-8-2 ... L Charnock 3
11 0650 DISCO TEX 23 (B) M W Easterby 3-7-13 ... Dale Gibson 8
12 0030 STOLEN MUSIC 7 R Barr 5-7-12 ... Iona Wands (5) 10
13 -000 COMMON VIEW 12 (V) N Tinkler 3-7-12 ... Kim Tinkler 6
14 0-0 BROUGHTONS CHAMP 44 W Musson 6-7-12 ... F Norton 1

5-1 Isabella Gonzaga, Disco Tex, 6-1 Sabre Butt, 7-1 Kameez, 8-1 others.

5.15 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (£3,704: 7f) (10)

1 025- MR BERGERAC 207 (F,G,S) B Palling 7-10-0 ... C Lowther 1
2 04-0 CYBERTECHNOLOGY 12 (D,F,G) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-11 K Darley 6
3 01-0 SAINT EXPRESS 11 (CD,F) Mrs M Reveley 8-9-11 A Culhane 5
4 23-6 TEME VALLEY 14 Mrs A Swinbank 4-9-5 ... G Duffield 3
5 30-0 LUNAR MIST 18 (F,G,S) M Meade 5-9-3 ... Dean McKeown 2
6 -050 PRELUDIUM PURSUIT 39 (G) R Fahey 3-8-13 ... J Fortune 7
7 0563 MYBOTYE 15 (CD,F,G) R Bastiman 5-8-5 ... J Carroll 4
8 5540 RYMER'S RASCAL 7 (BF,D,F,S) E Alston 6-8-5 ... W Supple 8
9 0361 DURHAM FLYER 11 (B,CD,S) T Easterby 3-8-1 L Charnock 10
10 -050 ARCHELLO 9 (F) G Oldroyd 4-7-10 ... P Fessey 9

9-2 Durham Flyer, 5-1 Mybotye, 6-1 Lunar Mist, Preludium Pursuit, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Guest, 4 winners from 9 runners, 44.4%; M Prescott, 12 from 32, 37.5%; M Tompkins, 5 from 25, 20.0%; R Barr, 3 from 24, 12.5%; J Eyre, 13 from 107, 12.1%; M Johnston, 16 from 132, 12.1%.

JOCKEYS: G Carter, 18 winners from 81 rides, 22.2%; K Darley, 44 from 239, 18.5%; C Lowther, 3 from 20, 15.0%; J Carroll, 20 from 140, 14.3%; G Duffield, 9 from 66, 13.6%; O Pears, 3 from 28, 10.7%.

BRIGHTON

THUNDERER

2.00 Bright Paragon
2.30 Over The Counter
3.00 Sharp Shuffle
3.30 Telmar
4.00 Sahara
4.30 **IVORY DAWN** (nap)

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.30 **PERADVENTURE.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Blarney Park. 2.30 Ace Of Trumps. 3.30 **BARDON HILL BOY** (nap).

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 FITZHERBERT HANDICAP (£2,645: 5f) (16 runners)

101 (2) 1000460 IVORY'S GRAB HIRE 3 (B,CD,F,G) (D Ivory) K Ivory 5-10-0 ... Martin Dwyer 71
102 (10) 00-0435 ALPEN WOLF 16 (R Harris) W Muir 3-9-5 ... J Reid 70
103 (5) 0040-30 MUJAS 11 (B,D,F) (Mujas Partnership) L Montague Hall 5-9-5 ... R Cochrane 76
104 (6) 11-6006 DANCING MYSTERY 9 (B,D) (A Stroud & Co Ltd) E Wheeler 4-9-3 A Daly (3) 78
105 (13) 1000031 SIHAFI 2 (G) (J Gilbertson) D Nicholls 5-9-7 (6ex) ... A Nicholls (7) 80
106 (12) 3-06000 OK JOHN 16 (Ok Partnership) J Akehurst 3-9-0 ... D Griffiths (3) 68
107 (15) 2440550 FRIENDLY BRAVE 11 (B,D,F) Miss G Kelleway 8-8-13 ... R Hughes 74
108 (14) 00-1500 SOUND THE TRUMPET 91 (D,G) (Mrs J Nichols) R Spicer 6-8-12 A Eddery (7) 67
109 (4) 0046202 BROADWAY MELODY 7 (Town & Country) A Jarvis 4-8-12 ... D Sweeney 75
110 (7) 0-20064 BRIGHT PARAGON 4 (D,F,G,S) (D Cooper) K Ivory 9-8-7 ... N Pollard (7) 70
111 (16) 3000-34 BLARNEY PARK 29 (Blarney Park Racing Club) C Dwyer 3-8-6 J Gotobed (7) 68
112 (1) 000360- EMBROIDERED 289 (J Evans) S Dow 5-8-4 ... P Doe (5) 80
113 (11) 6000-00 HALBERT 19 (V,CD,F) (P Saunders) P Burgoyne 9-8-1 ... J Marshall 69
114 (9) 0034600 CALANDRELLA 35 (M Clemence) G Balding 5-8-1 ... T Sprake 76
115 (8) 00/5000 MIDNIGHT COOKIE 11 (Ms S Joyner) B Hodges 5-7-12 ... N Adams 65
116 (3) 000/00- MAZZARELLO 375 (V,D,F,G) (P Naughton) R Ingram 8-7-10 ... G Bardwell 54

BETTING: 3-1 Sihafi, 7-1 Broadway Melody, 8-1 Alpen Wolf, Bright Paragon, Ivory's Grab Hire, 12-1 others.

1997: CHAKRA 3-9-2 J F Egan (20-1) S Dow 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Alpen Wolf 4¾l 5th of 9 to Muja's Magic in handicap at Brighton (5f 213yd, good). Dancing Mystery 3¼l 8th of 19 to Carlton in handicap at Windsor (6f, good to firm). Sihafi beat Cauda Equina 2l in 11-runner handicap at Windsor (6f, good). Broadway Melody 1¼l 2nd of 16 to Miss Dangerous in fillies handicap at Warwick (5f, good to soft). Bright Paragon 2¼l 4th of 15 to Windrush Boy in handicap at Lingfield (5f, good). Blarney Park 5¾l 4th of 7 to Facile Tigre in 3yo handicap at Brighton (5f 59yd, firm).

SIHAFI looks very well treated after a last-time win at Windsor

2.30 RAGGETTS SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £1,830: 6f 209yd) (7 runners)

201 (1) 650 ACE OF TRUMPS 14 (Fernedge Bloodstock Ltd & E Blur) W Haggas 8-11 M Hills 65
202 (6) 00 ZAHARAN 6 (B) (Mrs J Regan) R Hannon 8-11 ... Dane O'Neill 60
203 (5) 040 ELLIE MAI 40 (A Pryer) W G M Turner 8-6 ... S Righton (7) 51
204 (4) 63 HI-JENNY 11 (BF) (P Green) W G M Turner 8-6 ... T Sprake 65
205 (3) 04 OVER THE COUNTER 8 (Over The Counter Partnership) M Channon 8-6 T Quinn 78
206 (2) 0 PATSYS FOREM 11 (H C Promotions Ltd) M Blanshard 8-6 ... D Sweeney 43
207 (7) 63545 SIMPSON'S DOMAIN 18 (Mrs P Ratcliffe) J S Moore 8-6 ... P P Murphy (3) 65

BETTING: 3-1 Over The Counter, 7-2 Simpson's Domain, 4-1 Ace Of Trumps, 5-1 Zaharan, 11-2 Hi-Jenny, 10-1 Patsys Forem, 14-1 Ellie Mai.

1997: JATO DANCER 8-8 J F Egan (7-2) M Channon 7 ran

FORM FOCUS Ace Of Trumps 20l last of 9 to Cyro in 2yo maiden auction stakes at Nottingham (5l 13yd, good). Zaharan 9¾l 7th of 18 to Kingston Venture in 2yo maiden auction stakes at Salisbury (7f, good to firm). Ellie Mai 18l last of 8 to La Taverneta in 2yo selling stakes at Brighton (5f 213yd, firm). Hi-Jenny 3¼l 3rd of 6 to Miss Take in 2yo selling stakes at Wolverhampton (6f, Aw, fibresand). Over The Counter 7¾l 4th of 9 to Three Green Leaves in 2yo maiden auction stakes at Beverley (7f 100yd, good). Patsys Forem 15l 7th of 9 to Cashkil in 2yo selling stakes at Lingfield (6f, good). Simpson's Domain 12l 5th of 10 to Captain Miller in 2yo maiden auction stakes at Lingfield (7f, good).

OVER THE COUNTER can take advantage of a drop in class

3.00 BEAU BRUMMEL CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,582: 1m 1f 209yd) (7 runners)

301 (3) 421/0- DANESMAN 284 (G) (Four Willies Partnership) W Muir 5-10-0 ... J Reid 55
302 (2) 52/1011 FLYING EAGLE 7 (D,G,S) (T Maycock) R Simpson 7-10-0 ... M Gallagher 80
303 (4) 05-5502 SHARP SHUFFLE 7 (C,F,G) (Mrs H Prendergast) R Hannon 5-10-0 R Hughes 88
304 (5) 0-26650 DOUBLE RUSH 5 (CD,F,S) (T Murray) T Mills 5-9-6 ... A Whelan 60
305 (6) 0003003 FALKENBERG 11 (J Salter) B Pearce 3-8-11 ... Martin Dwyer 58
306 (7) 668 COMMANDER CONN 18 (R Page) T M Jones 3-8-7 ... R Perham –
307 (1) 0006-00 SHECANDO 23 (N Cowan) E L James 3-8-2 ... J F Egan 56

BETTING: 5-4 Sharp Shuffle, 7-4 Flying Eagle, 8-1 Danesman, 12-1 Double Rush, Falkenberg, 20-1 Commander Conn, 25-1 Shecando.

1997: NIGHT WINK 5-9-11 Martin Dwyer (7-4) G L Moore 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Danesman 28l 8th of 13 to Darapour in handicap at Newbury (1m 5f 61yd, good to firm). Flying Eagle beat Brighstone 3l in 13-runner selling stakes at Warwick (1m 2f 169yd, good to soft). Sharp Shuffle 1¾l 2nd of 15 to Mr Majica in claiming stakes at Salisbury (1m, good to firm). Double Rush 41l 17th of 18 to Lancer in handicap at Folkestone (1m 4f, good to firm). Falkenberg 2¼l 3rd of 10 to Special Person in 3yo maiden handicap at Lingfield (1m, Aw, equitrack). Commander Conn 30l 6th of 7 to Benjamin Frank in maiden auction stakes at Brighton (1m 3f 196yd, good). Shecando 44l 15th of 16 to Tafib in claiming stakes at Windsor (1m 3f 135yd, good).

FLYING EAGLE is in flying form and should win again

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robertson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

3.30 TOTE BRIGHTON SUMMER CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP
[SHOWCASE RACE] (£7,035: 1m 3f 196yd) (9 runners)

401 (8) -131344 MONTECRISTO 12 (D,F,G,S) (R Guest) R Guest 5-10-0 ... N Pollard (7) 87
402 (5) 3600646 BARDON HILL BOY 12 (F) (Miss M Breslin) B Hanbury 6-9-13 ... R Cochrane 88
403 (2) 400-010 AL'S ALIBI 25 (D,F,G,S) (J Hamm) W Muir 5-9-13 ... J Reid 85
404 (9) 03245 PERADVENTURE 13 (M Pescod) R Hannon 3-9-4 ... Dane O'Neill 103
405 (3) 3-21415 YET AGAIN 22 (BF,CD,F) (A Griffin) Miss G Kelleway 6-8-12 ... T Sprake 93
406 (4) 2-41213 BATHE IN LIGHT 23 (D) (Coriolan Pins) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-11 ... D Harrison 85
407 (1) 330-006 HIGH ON LIFE 33 (B) (Canisbay Bloodstock Ltd) J Akehurst 4-8-7 ... A Clark 76
408 (6) 003 TELMAR 18 (Dodson & Partners) J Cullinan 4-8-4 ... D Sweeney 58
409 (7) 3400-43 SOVEREIGN CREST 29 (B,CD,F) (B Sumner) C Horgan 5-7-10 ... Martin Dwyer 79

Long handicap: Sovereign Crest 7-7.

BETTING: 3-1 Bathe In Light, 9-2 Peradventure, 6-1 Montecristo, Yet Again, 13-2 Al's Alibi, 7-1 Bardon Hill Boy, 10-1 Sovereign Crest, 12-1 others.

1997: SOVEREIGN CREST 4-8-10 D Holland (11-2) C Horgan 9 ran

FORM FOCUS Montecristo 7¾l 4th of 8 to Travelmate in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good). Bardon Hill Boy 13l 6th of 13 to Royal Legend in handicap at Goodwood (1m 1f 192yd, good). Al's Alibi 48l 9th of 10 to Bay Of Islands in handicap at Doncaster (1m 4f, good). Peradventure 5¼l 5th of 17 to Double Classic in 3yo handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, soft). Yet Again 2¾l 5th of 14 to Pekay in gentleman amateur handicap at Salisbury (1m 4f, good to soft); previously beat Be True 3½l in 9-runner handicap at Brighton (1m 3f 196yd, firm) with Sovereign Crest (5lb better off) 5½l 3rd. Bathe In Light 2l 3rd of 5 to Carburton in handicap at Warwick (1m 4f 115yd, soft).

SOVEREIGN CREST caught the eye last time and is on a decent mark

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
L Cumani	12	33	36.4	T Quinn	49	190	25.8
Miss G Kelleway	17	71	23.9	L Dettori	7	30	23.3
W Muir	9	40	22.5	Martin Dwyer	10	52	19.2
K Ivory	7	33	21.2	J Reid	18	98	18.4
S Woods	6	32	18.8	Dane O'Neill	26	144	18.1

4.00 CHIPPENDALE MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(£4,280: 7f 214yd) (14 runners)

501 (10) D CRAFTBOOK PAY LODE 18 (Craftbook Ltd) J Bradley 5-9-6 ... S Drowne –
502 (6) 4 DAHABIAH 18 (Umm Dam Racing) M Kettle 4-9-6 ... T Sprake 54
503 (7) KATIE HAWK (Mrs T D Wates) J Bradley 4-9-6 ... A Daly (3) –
504 (2) 6 MY ELLIE 9 (Miss J Rumford) R Simpson 4-9-6 ... M Gallagher 46
505 (8) OVER KEEN (Miss J Challen) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-6 ... J F Egan –
506 (13) 22430-0 SANS EGALE 27 (Without Equal Partnership) Lady Herries 4-9-6 G Arnolda (7) 69
507 (3) 5405 SHONA 16 (Stonethorn Stud Farms Ltd) R Hannon 4-9-6 ... Dane O'Neill 67
508 (4) 34-8 LEA GRANDE 32 (A del Tomone) L Cumani 3-8-11 ... L Dettori 75
509 (12) 050-6 MAGIC SPRING 14 (Fieldspring Racing) K McAuliffe 3-8-11 ... M Henry 59
510 (11) 6 MISS GREEN 26 (Miss J Wilkinson) J Hills 3-8-11 ... A Clark –
511 (14) 2-5363 MUSICAL TWIST 25 (B) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-11 ... J Reid 81
512 (9) 2-245 PURSUIT VENTURE 39 (Dr F Chao) S Woods 3-8-11 ... Martin Dwyer 79
513 (1) 520-052 SAHARA 23 (Lord Lloyd-Webber) P Cole 3-8-11 ... T Quinn 75
514 (5) 00- SWINGTIME 247 (J M Cook) G Charles-Jones 3-8-11 ... C Rutter –

BETTING: 3-1 Musical Twist, 7-2 Sahara, 5-1 Lea Grande, Pursuit Venture, 12-1 Dahabiah, Over Keen, Shona, 14-1 others.

1997: ALKHLAS 3-8-11 R Hills (11-10 fav) W Hern 3 ran

FORM FOCUS Musical Twist 3¼l 3rd of 9 to Hawadeth in 3yo maiden stakes at Haydock (1m 30yd, good). Pursuit Venture 6¼l 5th of 11 to Tajawuz in 3yo maiden fillies stakes at Lingfield (1m 2f, good to firm) with Musical Twist (levels) 9¾l 6th. Sahara 1l 2nd of 12 to Mustique Dream in 3yo fillies handicap at Nottingham (1m 54yd, good). Swingtime 17l 9th of 10 to Housekeeper in 2yo maiden fillies at Lingfield (7f, good).

A great chance for MUSICAL TWIST to break her duck

4.30 SADDLESCOMBE HANDICAP (£3,165: 6f) (9 runners)

601 (5) -505065 IVORY DAWN 3 (D,G) (D Ivory) K Ivory 4-9-10 ... N Pollard (7) 88
602 (8) 4302262 MALADERIE 6 (V,D,F) (R Brehaut) M Channon 4-9-6 ... T Quinn 68
603 (9) 0265-31 SIZZLING 34 (CD,F) (P & Mrs P Jubert) R Hannon 6-9-4 ... Dane O'Neill 71
604 (3) 00-0000 KATE LANE 12 (Mrs N Dutfield) Mrs P Dutfield 3-8-12 ... C Rutter 59
605 (1) 04d2040 JUSTINIANUS 8 (CD,G) (Exors of R Pascall) J Bridger 6-8-11 ... G Bardwell 61
606 (4) 4004004 SYLVAN DANCER 11 (J May) G Bravery 4-8-7 ... J F Egan 56
607 (2) 60-0060 FLYING HAROLD 41 (D,F) (M Allen) R Ingram 5-8-6 ... A Clark 61
608 (6) 3-60200 MISTER RAIDER 28 (B,D,F) (Raiders Partnership) E Wheeler 6-8-3 A Daly (3) 70
609 (7) 020-020 BAIRN ATHOLL 7 (P Phillips) R Hodges 5-7-13 ... Martin Dwyer 69

BETTING: 3-1 Sizzling, 7-2 Maladerie, Sylvan Dancer, 7-1 Ivory Dawn, Justinianus, Mister Raider, 10-1 others.

1997: RESIST THE FORCE 7-9-10 R Ffrench (5-1) C Cyzer 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Ivory Dawn 3¼l 5th of 24 to Masha-Il in handicap at Goodwood (6f, good to firm). Maladerie short head 2nd of 6 to Kram in handicap at Salisbury (5f, good to firm). Sizzling beat Justinianus (6lb better off) 1½l in 11-runner handicap at Brighton (5f 213yd, firm) with Maladerie (7lb better off) 1¾l 2nd and Sylvan Dancer (6lb better off) 3¾l 7th.

IVORY DAWN ran a blinder from a poor draw at Goodwood

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Chepstow

Going: good to soft (soft in places)

2.00 (1m 14yd) 1, Llanita (T Sprake, 16-1); 2, Tui (10-1); 3, Queen Of Scotland (13-8 fav). 12 ran. ½l, 3½l. B Palling. Tote £16.30, £4.00, £1.60, £1.10. DF £70.00. Trio £70.90. CSF £149.81.

2.30 (6f 16yd) 1, Cashiki (D Sweeney, 6-1); 2, Lament (6-1); 3, Karakul (8-1). David (4th) 11-8 fav. 8 ran. NR: My Mother's Dream, Sampower Star. 1¾l, 5l. B Palling. Tote £5.10; £1.70, £1.80, £1.80. DF £7.80. Trio £23.70. CSF £39.86.

3.00 (5f 16yd) 1, Divine Miss-P (D Sweeney, 6-1; Thunderer's nap); 2, Hopping Higgins (10-1); 3, Mister Jolson (7-1). River Tern 5-1 fav. 10 ran. 3½l, hd. J Cullinan. Tote £6.60; £2.10, £2.50, £2.50. DF £34.30. Trio £77.30. CSF £58.00. Tricast £400.15.

3.30 (1m 2f 36yd) 1, Time Loss (Paul Eddery, 9-1); 2, King Tango (4-9 fav); 3, Red Bordeaux (14-1). 12 ran. Nk, 7l. H Candy. Tote £13.20; £2.20, £1.10, £2.60. DF £6.80. Trio £27.80. CSF £12.67.

4.00 (1m 2f 36yd) 1, Praetorian Gold (R Hughes, 7-2); 2, Alcayde (11-4); 3, Mansa Musa (8-1). Harmony 13-8 fav. 8 ran. 1¾l, 2l. R Hannon. Tote £4.40; £2.00, £1.10, £1.10. DF £8.50. CSF £12.19. Tricast £62.41.

4.30 (2m 2f) 1, Sea Freedom (S Drowne, 3-1, Timekeeper's top rating); 2, Bridie's Pride (11-4 fav); 3, Black Ice Boy (5-1). 7 ran. Hd, 8l. G Balding. Tote £3.90; £1.90, £2.00. DF £6.30. CSF £10.70.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £86,170.55 carried forward to Brighton today).

Placepot: £107.50. Quadpot: £10.30.

Hamilton

Going: good to soft (good in places)

2.15 (5f 4yd) 1, Superfrills (L Charnock, 9-1); 2, Dubai Nurse (16-1); 3, Biff-Em (10-1). Soaked 2-1 fav. 12 ran. 2l, sh hd. Miss L Siddall. Tote £13.80; £2.30, £4.50, £2.40. DF £66.60. CSF £120.68. Tricast £1,281.61. Trio £452.90 (part won. Pool of £76.56 carried forward to Brighton 3.30 today).

2.45 (6f 5yd) 1, Tampa Lady (J Carroll, 9-4 fav); 2, Melody Queen (9-2); 3, Melody Blues (10-1). 8 ran. ½l, 5l. M Johnston. Tote £3.60; £1.10, £1.50, £4.70. DF £12.80. CSF £11.95.

3.15 (1m 1f 36yd) 1, Robin Lane (J Carroll, 11-4); 2, Raed (7-4 fav); 3, Rosa Royale (12-1). 9 ran. 1¾l, 2½l. M Johnston. Tote £3.60; £1.10, £1.40, £2.10. DF £3.50. Trio £17.70. CSF £7.18. Tricast £42.30.

3.45 (6f 5yd) 1, Unshaken (L Charnock, 7-2); 2, Piccolo Cativo (5-1); 3, Just Bob (9-4 fav). 7 ran. Hd, 2l. E Alston. Tote £5.30; £2.30, £2.70. DF £10.20. CSF £19.43.

4.15 (1m 3f 16yd) 1, Ten Past Six (J Carroll, 7-1); 2, Durgams First (5-2 fav); 3, Pratmist (7-2). 7 ran. 1¾l, ½l. M Wane. Tote £10.40; £3.40, £1.80. DF £13.20. CSF £21.07.

4.45 (1m 4f 17yd) 1, On Call (Clare Lund, 1-3 fav); 2, Ruby Bear (16-1); 3, Accystan (5-1). 3 ran. 1¾l, 2l. M Prescott. Tote £1.40. DF £2.20. CSF £6.05.

Placepot: £196.40. Quadpot: £16.80.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Brighton: 2.30 Zaharan. Kempton Park: 9.10 Palais. Redcar: 2.15 Red Venus, Double Two. 2.45 Sandside, Bow Bells. 3.15 Grand Estate, Peter's Imp. 4.45 Common View, Disco Tex. Yarmouth: 6.55 Almazhar. 7.25 Bon Sizzle, Bin Faa.

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KEMPTON PARK

THUNDERER

6.40 Bella Loupa. 7.10 Bluebelle. 7.40 Tadwiga. 8.10 Royal Amaretto. 8.40 Welton Arsenal. 9.10 Salamah.

GOING: SOFT DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

6.40 EBF MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES SKY
(2-Y-O: £3,518: 7f) (7 runners)

1 (2) 0 BELLA LOUPA 20 R Hannon 8-11 ... Dane O'Neill 58
2 (3) 5 BITTER SWEET 22 D Elsworth 8-11 ... W R Swinburn 67
3 (1) 5 BORN FREE 19 P Cole 8-11 ... T Quinn 80
4 (6) 6 FAMILY TREE 23 B Hills 8-11 ... M Hills 70
5 (4) LAILA MANJA P Cole 8-11 ... C Rutter –
6 (5) SALESTRIA P Harris 8-11 ... Pat Eddery –
7 (7) 3 WINCE 30 H Cecil 8-11 ... K Fallon 88

5-4 Wince, 5-1 Born Free, 11-2 Family Tree, 6-1 Bitter Sweet, 8-1 others.

7.10 1812 OVERTURE MAIDEN STAKES SKY
(3-Y-O fillies: £3,518: 1m 2f) (8)

1 (3) BABOLNA B Hills 8-11 ... J D Smith (3) –
2 (2) 4 BLUEBELLE 9 M Prescott 8-11 ... S Sanders 60
3 (5) 00 LADY OF LORIEN 9 B McMath 8-11 ... G Bardwell 52
4 (1) 05 PRINCESS SCEPTRE 14 B Hills 8-11 ... M Hills 73
5 (4) RAJAIYMA L Cumani 8-11 ... O Urbina –
6 (8) 0 SEARCH PARTY 25 L Cumani 8-11 ... L Dettori –
7 (6) 03 VERVE 19 (BF) R Charlton 8-11 ... W R Swinburn 56
8 (7) WINDY GULCH P Cole 8-11 ... T Quinn –

3-1 Bluebelle, 4-1 Verve, 9-2 Search Party, 5-1 Rajaiyma, 6-1 others.

7.40 EBF SUMMER CONDITIONS STAKES SKY
(3-Y-O fillies: £6,429: 1m) (4)

1 (3) 02-1 TADWIGA 81 (CD,S) R Hannon 9-2 ... J Reid 101
2 (4) 14 PURE GOLD 7 (S) H Candy 8-12 ... C Rutter 90
3 (1) 4-16 ZELAH 39 (F) B Smart 8-12 ... J Stack 102
4 (2) 26-0 ASCOT CYCLONE 59 (F) B Hills 8-8 ... M Hills 97

4-5 Tadwiga, 2-1 Ascot Cyclone, 8-1 Zelah, 10-1 Pure Gold.

8.10 MOWLEM GALA STAKES SKY
(Listed race: £11,373: 1m 2f) (10)

1 (1) 201- KING ALEX 319 (D,G,S) R Charlton 5-9-10 ... Pat Eddery 108
2 (2) 1-10 DANISH RHAPSODY 29 (D,F,G,S) Lady Herries 5-9-7 ... Paul Eddery 107
3 (3) 6-13 MANDILAK 32 (D,G,S) L Cumani 4-9-7 ... W R Swinburn 113
4 (4) -242 FUTURE PERFECT 25 (D,F,S) P Cole 4-9-4 ... T Quinn 112
5 (10) /150 HAPPY VALENTINE 46 (BF,G) S bin Suroor 4-9-4 ... L Dettori 97
6 (7) 3-00 ROYAL AMARETTO 15 (D,F,G) B Meehan 4-9-4 ... R Hughes 119
7 (5) 0-31 LONELY HEART 9 (D,F) D Elsworth 4-8-13 ... J Reid 101
8 (6) -350 FRUITS OF LOVE 12 (F) M Johnston 3-8-7 ... M Hills 107
9 (9) 30-2 MOUNTAIN SONG 3 (G,S) M Prescott 3-8-7 ... S Sanders 111
10 (8) 5125 THE EDITOR 15 (G) H Cecil 3-8-7 ... K Fallon 121

4-1 Mandilak, 5-1 Danish Rhapsody, 6-1 Lonely Heart, 7-1 others.

8.40 FIREWORKS FINALE HANDICAP
(£3,745: 7f) (14)

1 (10) /4-0 WELVILLE 22 (G) P Makin 5-10-0 ... A Clark 70
2 (13) 0-00 WELTON ARSENAL 45 (D,F,G) K Bishop 6-9-12 ... R Hughes 86
3 (9) 5213 SMOOTH SAILING 12 (D,S) K McAuliffe 3-9-6 ... J Reid 83
4 (12) -300 TOP BANANA 22 (F,G) H Candy 7-9-5 ... B Smith (7) 79
5 (7) 0451 AMBER FORT 5 (V,D,G,S) D Elsworth 5-9-4 ... N Pollard (7) 83
6 (5) 1364 SALTY JACK 19 (D,F,S) V Soane 4-9-3 ... W R Swinburn 80
7 (2) 0025 HUNTSWOOD 7 (BF,F) R Hannon 3-9-1 ... Pat Eddery 79
8 (6) 0550 CADEAUX CHER 23 (B,F) B Hills 4-9-1 ... J D Smith (3) 80
9 (8) 0006 JUWWI 19 (F) J Bradley 4-9-0 ... S Drowne 74
10 (14) 0-04 MULLITOVER 12 (CD,F,S) M H-Ellis 8-8-13 ... S Sanders 80
11 (4) 4300 KNOBBLEENEEZE 7 (V,D,G) M Channon 8-8-13 ... T Quinn 85
12 (3) 0254 ZURS 12 (BF,D,F) J R Poulton 5-8-7 ... R Cochrane 83
13 (1) 5021 CARLTON 9 (B,D,F,S) C Lewis 4-8-4 (6ex) ... Paul Eddery 82
14 (11) 0605 BAYIN 4 (C,F,G,S) M Usher 9-7-10 ... R Street 86

6-1 Smooth Sailing, 7-1 Amber Fort, Huntswood, Mullitover, 9-1 Zurs, 10-1 others.

9.10 SURREY RACING HANDICAP
(£3,469: 1m 4f) (8)

1 (8) -052 SALAMAH 12 (S) R Charlton 4-10-0 ... Pat Eddery 78
2 (6) 1106 FAIRY KNIGHT 12 (CD,G,S) R Hannon 6-9-4 ... R Hughes 87
3 (2) 6-13 BRYDNY BRIND 28 (BF,F) J Fanshawe 3-9-4 ... K Fallon 85
4 (7) 2110 SALIGO 9 (F) H Morrison 3-8-12 ... C Rutter 90
5 (1) 040- JOLI'S SON 325 M Haynes 5-8-11 ... R Cochrane 81
6 (5) 60-0 VOILA PREMIERE 95 (D,G) Lady Herries 6-8-10 ... A Clark 87
7 (4) 6113 COURT SHAREEF 12 (D,S) R Dickin 3-8-9 ... W R Swinburn 103
8 (3) 4566 PALAIS 27 (V) M Stoute 3-8-8 ... J Reid 86

5-2 Court Shareef, 7-2 Salamah, 5-1 Fairy Knight, Saligo, 7-1 Palais, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Bradley, 3 winners from 11 runners, 27.3%; S bin Suroor, 3 from 13, 23.1%; K McAuliffe, 5 from 23, 21.7%; L Cumani, 6 from 28, 21.4%; H Cecil, 13 from 61, 21.3%.

JOCKEYS: K Fallon, 7 winners from 31 rides, 22.6%; Pat Eddery, 40 from 195, 20.5%; R Hughes, 15 from 78, 19.2%; J Reid, 29 from 157, 18.5%; L Dettori, 18 from 114, 15.8%.

YARMOUTH

THUNDERER

6.25 Abuljjood. 6.55 Samata One. 7.25 Porcellino. 7.55 Gymcrak Flyer. 8.25 Serpentine. 8.55 Benjamin Frank.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 6F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

6.25 ACLE MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,720: 1m 3f 101yd) (8 runners)

1 AGNOR H Cecil 4-9-10 ... A McGlone 5
2 ROYAL ALIBI H Cecil 4-9-10 ... W J O'Connor 3
3 THE BAT 110J A Jarvis 5-9-10 ... D O'Donohoe 1
4 50 TRIPLE HIGH 16 C Wall 4-9-5 ... G Hind 4
5 080 ABULJJOOD 39 B Hanbury 3-8-12 ... R Hills 2
6 043 DIDIFON 12 H Cecil 3-8-12 ... W Ryan 7
7 4 KADAKA 12 L Cumani 3-8-7 ... R Ffrench 8
8 0 MISLEADING LADY 32 M Stoute 3-8-7 ... F Lynch 6

5-4 Didifon, 13-8 Kadaka, 6-1 Misleading Lady, 12-1 Abuljjood, 16-1 others.

6.55 BASTWICK HANDICAP SKY
(£3,850: 1m 3yd) (9)

1 0023 HUGWITY 12 (D,G,S) G Bravery 6-10-0 ... N Day 7
2 -203 SAFEY ANA 25 (C,D,F,G) B Hanbury 7-9-12 ... W Ryan 9
3 0-40 ALMAZHAR 14 (V) E Dunlop 3-9-0 ... R Hills 5
4 3020 SEVERITY 12 B McMath 4-8-13 ... D Biggs 1
5 0-00 SHINING CLOUD 28 (F) M Bell 5-8-3 ... R Mullen (3) 6
6 -150 NAUTICAL WARNING 27 J Noseda 3-8-2 ... P Robinson 8
7 0-52 SAMATA ONE 16 W Haggas 3-8-1 ... J Tate 4
8 2200 CHAIRMANS CHOICE 23 (D,F) A Jarvis 8-8-0 ... D O'Donohoe 3
9 0020 MRS MIDDLE 14 (S) N Callaghan 3-7-10 ... A Mackay 2

11-4 Safey Ana, 7-2 Hugwity, 6-1 Samata One, 7-1 Shining Cloud, 8-1 others.

7.25 WHEATACRE SELLING STAKES SKY
(3-Y-O: £2,145: 7f 3yd) (15)

1 0046 BIN FAA 9 (B) J Scargill 9-0 ... M Rimmer 14
2 5260 BON SIZZLE 26 (V,BF) J Fanshawe 9-0 ... D Harrison 6
3 5- FEN WARRIOR 364 W Haggas 9-0 ... F Lynch 9
4 0050 FRITTON 9 M Tompkins 9-0 ... D Biggs 12
5 0600 PINSHARP 4 (V) P Howling 9-0 ... N Day 10
6 5003 PORCELLINO 16 K Burke 9-0 ... D O'Donohoe 15
7 RING CHEQUER'S T Clement 9-0 ... Nicola Howarth 13
8 8600 SHIRA-A 71 M Polglase 9-0 ... A Fox (7) 3
9 00 CAPRIOARA 23 J L Harris 8-9 ... S Righton (7) 5
10 0-0 CERTAIN DANGER 61 N Callaghan 8-9 ... R Ffrench 7
11 0006 FIRE GODDESS 6 J S Moore 8-9 ... W J O'Connor 11
12 -500 GUEST ENVOY 52 C Allen 8-9 ... G Hind 2
13 IRONSIDE PRINCESS R Simpson 8-9 ... M Gallagher 1
14 -560 PEACEFUL SARAH 14 B Hanbury 8-9 ... W Ryan 4
15 0600 WOODLANDS PRIDE 20 M Chapman 8-9 ... L Newton 8

7-2 Porcellino, 6-1 Bon Sizzle, 7-1 Fen Warrior, Peaceful Sarah, 8-1 others.

7.55 LODDON FILLIES HANDICAP SKY
(£3,558: 7f 3yd) (7)

1 050- CITY GAMBLER 267 (F,G) G Bravery 4-9-10 ... M Rimmer 4
2 8530 SUMMER QUEEN 12 (D,G) S Woods 4-9-8 ... N Day 3
3 2335 WORTH THE EFFORT 13 (BF) M Tompkins 3-9-8 ... D Biggs 1
4 -000 SADA 9 C Dwyer 3-9-7 ... J Gotobed (7) 6
5 6002 GYMCRAK FLYER 6 (BF,CD,F,G) G Holmes 7-9-0 ... W Ryan 5
6 4000 MOONSTONE 23 A Jarvis 3-8-12 ... D O'Donohoe 2
7 606- NEWALA 233 W Haggas 3-8-5 ... F Lynch 7

3-1 Gymcrak Flyer, 7-2 Worth The Effort, 5-1 Summer Queen, Sada, 6-1 others.

8.25 COTMAN MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,346: 6f) (7)

1 BIG CHIEF M Tompkins 9-0 ... D Biggs 6
2 BILLICHANG P Howling 9-0 ... G Hind 5
3 CUBISM J Hills 9-0 ... R Hills 4
4 LUCKY RASCAL B Hanbury 9-0 ... W Ryan 3
5 PEPPERDINE W Jarvis 9-0 ... J Quinn 2
6 SERPENTINE J Fanshawe 9-0 ... D Harrison 7
7 ALEGRIA J Eustace 8-9 ... J Tate 1

5-2 Serpentine, 4-1 Pepperdine, Alegria, Lucky Rascal, 7-1 Cubism, 8-1 others.

8.55 BREYDON WATER HANDICAP
(£3,460: 1m 6f) (5)

1 -110 CHEEK TO CHEEK 37 (F) C Cyzer 4-9-10 ... W Ryan 4
2 2621 BENJAMIN FRANK 16 (B) S Woods 3-9-10 ... N Day 3
3 0010 GOLDEN HADEER 7 (D,F,G,S) M Ryan 7-9-3 ... P Robinson 5
4 -004 CROMER PIER 9 M Tompkins 3-9-0 ... D Biggs 2
5 00-5 DELAYED REACTION 91 N Callaghan 3-8-0 ... R Ffrench 1

6-4 Benjamin Frank, 11-4 Cheek To Cheek, 7-2 Cromer Pier, 11-2 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Holmes, 3 winners from 4 runners, 75.0%; H Cecil, 22 from 93, 23.7%; L Cumani, 13 from 62, 21.0%; N Callaghan, 9 from 45, 20.0%; E Dunlop, 6 from 30, 20.0%; J Eustace, 6 from 31, 19.4%.

JOCKEYS: R Hills, 32 winners from 139 rides, 23.0%; A McGlone, 9 from 64, 14.1%; D Harrison, 9 from 67, 13.4%; W Ryan, 18 from 142, 12.7%. Only qualifiers

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

On today's deal from the 1998 European Mixed Pairs Championship in Aachen, Pony Nehmert, a member of the German ladies team which won the Venice Cup in 1995, missed the line to make a thin game.

Dealer East Love All IMPs

North: ♠ J 6 4 3 ♡ 9 2 ♢ K Q J 6 5 2 ♣ 4
West: ♠ A 10 2 ♡ K 5 4 ♢ 10 3 ♣ Q 10 9 6 5
East: ♠ Q 9 8 7 ♡ Q 8 ♢ 8 7 ♣ A K 8 7 3
South: ♠ K 5 ♡ A J 10 7 6 3 ♢ A 9 4 ♣ J 2

Contract: Four Hearts Doubled, by South. Lead: ten of clubs.

East-West were playing a canapé system, in which the opening bid on two-suited hands is the shorter suit, so East started with One Spade. South overcalled Two Hearts, West supported to Two Spades, North bid Three Diamonds and South jumped optimistically to Four Hearts. West's double concluded the auction.

East won the club lead with the king and switched to the queen of hearts, won by declarer's ace. Nehmert ruffed her losing club, played a diamond to the ace, and then the ten of hearts. West took the king of hearts and exited with the ten of diamonds, locking declarer in the dummy. Declarer had no option now but to try a spade to the king, and the defence accurately cashed two spade tricks for one down.

When East turns up with the ace and king of clubs (remember, he won the first club with the king) and queen of hearts, it is very probable that West has the ace of spades for his double, particularly as he might otherwise have led a spade, the suit opened by his partner. Accordingly, declarer should have avoided the actual ending in which she was obliged to lead a spade to her king. The solution is to play the king of diamonds then a second diamond to the ace after ruffing the club in dummy. Now she plays the jack of hearts and when West takes his king the best he can do is cash the ace of spades. The technique of playing off two diamonds to extract West's damaging exit is sometimes called the "dentist's coup". Note that diamonds are quite likely to be divided 2-2: if either defender held a singleton they might well have led it in the hope of getting a ruff.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Leko ahead

Celebrating the news that he is now the highest ranked junior player in the world with a rating of 2665, Hungarian Peter Leko moved into the lead after round four with the following win in the Dortmund tournament.

White: Peter Leko
Black: Artur Yusupov
Dortmund 1998

Petroff Defence

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nf6
3	Nxe5	d6
4	Nf3	Nxe4
5	d4	d5
6	Bd3	Nc6
7	0-0	Be7
8	Re1	Bg4
9	c3	f5
10	Nbd2	Qd6
11	c4	0-0
12	cxd5	Nxd4
13	Bxe4	fxe4
14	Nxe4	Bxf3
15	Qxd4	Qb4
16	Qxb4	Bxb4
17	Re3	Bh5
18	Rb3	Ba5
19	Be3	Bf7
20	Ng5	Bb6
21	Nxf7	Rxf7
22	Bxb6	axb6
23	d6	cxd6
24	Rxb6	Rc7
25	Kf1	Ra6
26	Rb4	Kf7
27	a3	d5
28	Rd1	Ke6
29	Rb5	Rd6
30	Ke2	Ke5
31	Kd3	Rdc6
32	Ke3	Rc5
33	Rxc5	Rxc5
34	Kd3	Rc4
35	Re1+	Kd6
36	Re8	Rf4
37	f3	Rh4
38	h3	b6
39	Rb8	Kc5
40	Rc8+	Kd6
41	Rf8	g5
42	Rf6+	Kc5
43	b4+	Kb5
44	Rf5	Ka4
45	Rxg5	Kxa3
46	Rxd5	Rxb4
47	Rh5	Rb3+
48	Ke4	Rb4+
49	Ke3	Rb3+
50	Kf4	Rb4+
51	Kg3	b5
52	h4	Rb1
53	Rxh7	b4
54	Ra7+	Kb2
55	Kf4	Rh1
56	Kg5	b3
57	h5	Kc3
58	Rc7+	Kd4
59	Rb7	Kc3
60	h6	b2
61	g4	b1Q
62	Rxb1	Rxb1
63	h7	Rb8
64	Kf6	Rb6+
65	Kg7	Rb7+
66	Kh6	Rb6+
67	Kh5	Rb8
68	g5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



New ratings

The top ten players in the latest July 1 Fide ranking list are as follows:

1, Garry Kasparov (Russia) 2815; 2, Viswanathan Anand (India) 2795; 3, Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) 2780; 4, Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine) 2730; 5, Anatoly Karpov (Russia) 2725; 6, Alexei Shirov (Spain) 2720; 7, Gata Kamsky (USA) 2720; 8, Michael Adams (England) 2715; 9, Peter Svidler (Russia) 2710; 10, Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria) 2700.

These ten are the only players to be 2700 or more.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SPIRITS OF SALT
a. The Navy rum ration
b. Hydrochloric acid
c. Ghosts of drowned sailors

MONTCONTOUR
a. A mountain range
b. A physical map
c. A battle

JOYSTICK
a. A seaside sweet
b. A light aircraft control
c. A grown-up's toy

BREVET
a. A tame rodent
b. An Army rank
c. A short communication

Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Hjartarson — Ljubojevic, Linares, 1988.

Black has failed to castle and his well-placed knight is under attack. Is he forced to retreat?



Solution on page 46

FOOTBALL

Wednesday in a spin over Smith's U-turn

BY DAVID MADDOCK

SHEFFIELD Wednesday's hopes for the new season suffered a severe blow yesterday when they discovered that Walter Smith would not, after all, be joining them as manager.

The man who steered Rangers to nine consecutive Scottish league titles had agreed, in principle, to assume control at Hillsbrough after a convivial meeting with Dave Richards, the Wednesday chairman, on Monday.

The deal went off course, however, as Smith made his weary way back from South Yorkshire to his Glasgow home. Intercepted on the way, he was persuaded to divert to Merseyside, where members of the Everton board were waiting to speak to him.

After a troubled night's sleep, Smith yesterday decided that he would prefer to join Everton. He believes, apparently, that they have the potential to be a much bigger club than Wednesday, even if such a scenario is not immediately apparent at present.

Wednesday had offered to double Smith's salary at Ibrox, which stood at £250,000 a year, but Everton managed to trump that. Thus the unassuming, grey-haired manager will command close on £2 million over the duration of the three-year contract that he is expected to sign at Goodison today.

There was no official comment from either club last night, and Smith was waiting to meet Peter Johnson, the Everton chairman, before finally committing pen to paper. But he assured those closest to him that he had turned his back on Wednesday and was prepared to assume the heavy responsibility of steering Everton back towards former heights.

Wednesday's response yesterday suggested as much. They were preparing to announce a press conference at midday, but the deadline came and went with no word from Smith. In a terse comment late in the day, a spokesperson said simply that the club was not prepared to comment, and that no one was around to do so anyway.

While the Yorkshire club is left careering towards a new season without a manager, Everton have, at last, proved themselves decisive. It may have cost a significant amount to replace Howard Kendall, but, in Smith, the club at least has a manager with a proven track record.

Everton have told their new manager that he has upwards of £10 million to spend on new players, and it is likely that he will be asked to use his knowledge of European football to attract high quality new players — a task that proved beyond his most recent predecessors.

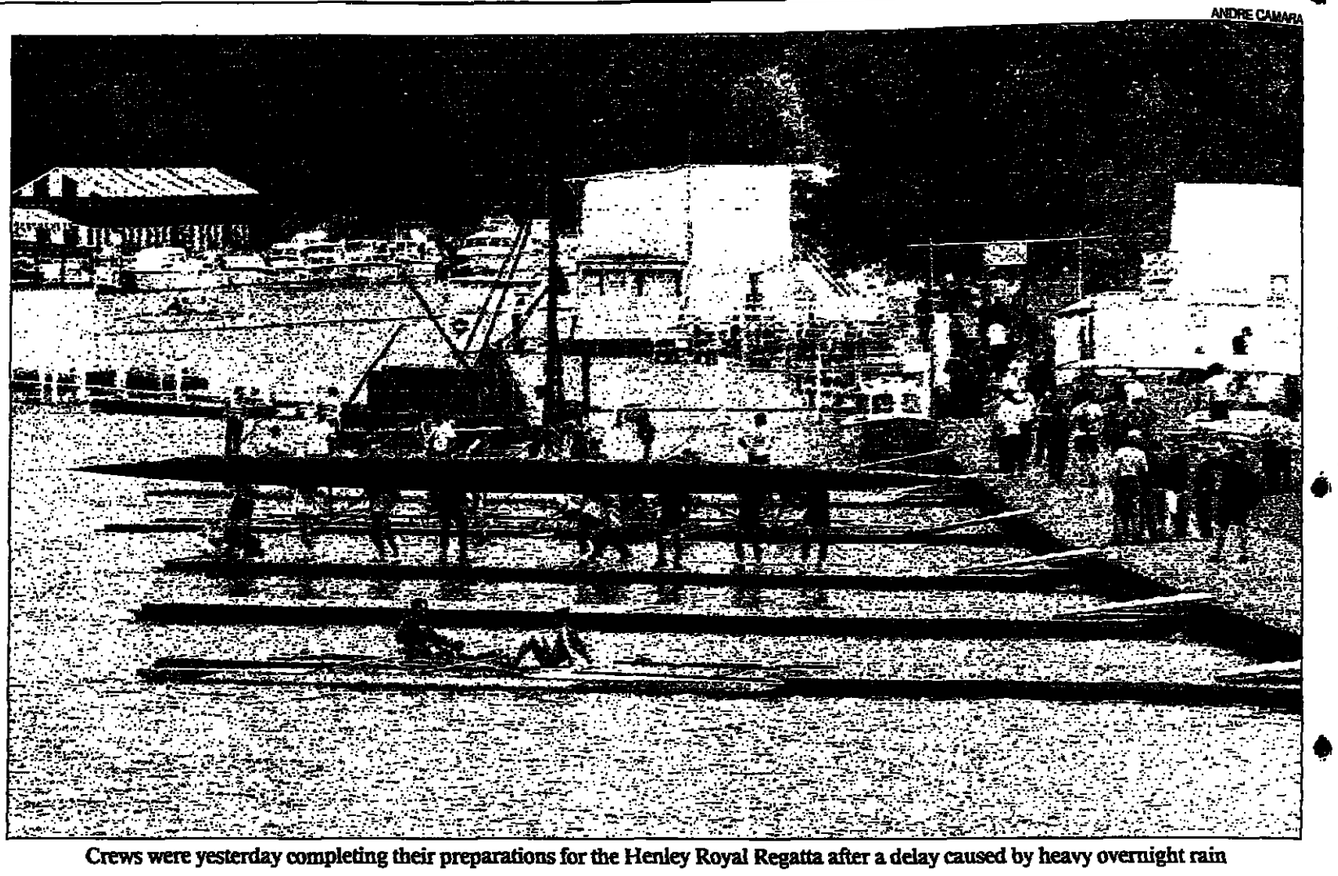
His first task though, will be to decide the future of several Everton players. Slaven Bilic, Terry Phelan and Nicky Barmby could all be offloaded. Then there is the thorny issue of Duncan Ferguson. The big Scottish striker was sold — in an almost unseemly hurry — to Everton by Smith, and the feeling is that the new manager is not impressed with his wild ways.

Swansea have parted company with their manager, Alan Cork, after a difference of opinion over the former Wimbledon player's "style of management". Cork, 39, took over at the Vetch Field last season after Micky Adams's turbulent 13-day reign.

Brentford will today announce joint plans with Hounslow Council to build Britain's first indoor football stadium. The Nationwide League third division club aims to sell its Griffin Park ground and build an all-seater stadium close to Heathrow.

Tower must rise early for Henley campaign

BY MIKE ROSEWELL
ROWING CORRESPONDENT


ANDRE CAMARA

Crews were yesterday completing their preparations for the Henley Royal Regatta after a delay caused by heavy overnight rain

THE first of 308 scheduled races at the 159th Henley Royal Regatta today is a heat of the Thames Challenge Cup eights at 8.30am. Unusually, it involves a "selected" crew — one regarded by the stewards as potential contenders — in Queen's Tower, racing their Putney neighbours, Vesta B.

The reason for their early start is that half of the Queen's Tower crew are also racing, again as a selection, in the Wyfold fours at 6.40pm, when they have been unlucky enough to have been drawn against their own C crew.

Henley '98

The opening day sees action in six of the 17 events. In the Thames Cup, three of the eight selected crews are overseas combinations — Commercial, from Ireland, Sydney, and Hamburger and Germania, from Germany. All should progress, as should the British selected crews, although Bowbridge, winners at Marlow Regatta, will have respect for the traditionally competitive Garda Siochana, the crew representing Dublin Police.

Molesey, another selection, have Richard Stanhope, 40, rowing at No 7. It is the seventeenth Henley appearance for Stanhope, a new steward, and he has seven medals. Richard Goddard, the Henley secretary, said that Stanhope has been excused duty "at least for the length of time he is in the regatta".

The 32-crew Wyfold Challenge Cup includes two American crews from Dresden, and Hansa Hamburg. Lea, Rob Roy and Clyde received stewards' selection, together with Queen's Tower.

Greg Searle, of Great Britain, and Jamie Koven, the American world champion, who are both selected, have been given byes in the first round of the Diamond Sculls today. The 24-boat entry involves 13 foreign scullers, including entries from Chile and Guatemala.

Two of the day's most attractive races from a British standpoint come at 2.25pm and 3.25pm, when James Di-Luzio, the 1997 junior world gold medal-winner, and Peter Haining, the triple world lightweight champion, take to the water. Di-Luzio faces Albert Maher, who represented Ireland in the Belgium round of the World Cup. Haining, seeking lightweight single selection this year, takes on Tristan Pascall, the Australian who looked strong in qualifying on Friday.

Parents will swell the enclosures as 32 school eights begin their quest for the Princess Elizabeth Cup, although perhaps fewer than usual since an unprecented eight overseas schools are in the line-up. Two of the fastest, St Mary's Prep, from Michigan, and Holy Cross School, Canada, have been drawn together. Kevin van Houten, the St Mary's coach, said: "When we raced them in Canada we edged them by a seat, if that."

The three selected British schools, Abingdon, Radley and Eton, could also have had easier first rounds. Abingdon face Canford, the perennial giantkillers. Radley meet Shrewsbury and Eton face St Joseph's College, Ireland.

The Temple Challenge Cup for student eights promises some great racing and the stewards' selection of eight crews demonstrates the difficulty in predicting a winner. Imperial College, losing finalists for the past two years, are one to watch. Williams Mason, their coach, said: "Princeton are the form crew."

London, Castle Semple, Queen's Tower and Oxford Brookes are selected in the Britannia coxed fours, the strength in depth of the latter two clubs being illustrated by selection in three events each.

Crews were unable to practise starts yesterday morning because heavy overnight rain had filled the septic tank on Temple Island and a pipe had to be laid across the course in order to pump it out.

TODAY'S ORDER OF ROWING AT HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

08.30: Thames: Queens Tower BC v Vesta RC B
08.35: Temple: Leeds University to row over
08.40: Princess Elizabeth: Pangbourne College A v The Oratory School
08.45: Wyfold: Molesey BC v London RC A
08.50: Britannia: Marlow RC v Worcester BC
09.00: Thames: London RC B v Vesta RC A
09.05: Temple: Durham University A v Sheffield University
09.10: Princess Elizabeth: Radley College C v Hampton School A
09.15: Wyfold: Thames Tradesmen RC B v Worcester RC
09.20: Diamonds: A Gonzalez v DC Hanrahan
09.30: Thames: Reading RC v Nottingham and Union RC
09.35: Temple: Edinburgh University v University of York
09.40: Princess Elizabeth: Westminster School v Pangbourne College B
09.45: Wyfold: Natwest RC v Marlow RC
09.50: Britannia: Thames Tradesmen's RC v Upper Thames RC
10.00: Thames: Molesey BC v Star Club
10.05: Temple: Oxford University Lwt. RC v Merton and St. Anne's, Oxford
10.10: Princess Elizabeth: King Edward VII School (SA) v Hampton School B
10.15: Wyfold: Bradford-on-Avon RC v Dresden RC B (US)
10.20: Diamonds: M P Van der Schoot v P Cobbett
10.30: Thames: Thames RC A v Cambridge '99 RC
10.35: Temple: Newcastle University v Magdalene College, Cambridge
10.40: Princess Elizabeth: Oundle School v St. Paul's Sch., Concord (US)
10.45: Wyfold: Twickenham RC v Royal Chester RC
10.50: Britannia: University College, Galway (Ire) v Syracuse University B (US)
11.00: Thames: City of Oxford RC v Sydney RC (Aus)
11.05: Temple: Lady Margaret BC, Cambridge v First and Third Trinity, Cambridge
11.10: Princess Elizabeth: Radley College B v Auckland Grammar School (NZ)
11.15: Wyfold: Dresden RC, A (US) v The Tideway Scullers School
11.20: Diamonds: R J Briscoe v S D Colbert
11.30: Thames: City of Oxford RC v Sydney RC (Aus)
11.35: Temple: Westerayan University B, (US) v University of Natal (SA)
11.40: Princess Elizabeth: St. Paul's School v Prince Alfred College (Aus)
11.45: Wyfold: Kingston RC v Nottingham BC
11.50: Britannia: Neptune RC (Ire) v Heidelberg (Ger)
12.00: Thames: Twickenham RC v Commercial RC, (Ire)
12.05: Temple: Hautes Etudes Commerc (Fr) v Manchester University
12.10: Kingston: Grammar School v St. Edward's School
12.15: Wyfold: Clyde Amateur RC v Staines BC
12.20: Diamonds: D A K Linley v K R Beatty
14.00: Thames: Auriol Kensington RC v Lansbury RC
14.05: Temple: Cherwell BC v Cambridge Univ. Lwt. RC
14.10: Princess Elizabeth: Canford School v Abingdon School A
14.15: Wyfold: Rob Roy BC v Thames Tradesmen's BC A
14.20: Britannia: Ley RC v Queen's Tower BC
14.25: Diamonds: J di-Luzio v A G D Maher
14.30: Thames: Thames RC B v Army RC
14.35: Temple: Glasgow University v Dartmouth RC, (US)
14.40: Princess Elizabeth: Radley College A v Shrewsbury School A
14.45: Wyfold: Clydesdale RC A v Stavanger Roklubb (Nor)
14.50: Britannia: Molesey BC A v Kingston University
14.55: Britannia: Castle Semple RC v Reading RC
15.00: Thames: London RC A v Penn Athletic Club (US)
15.05: Temple: Reading University v Southampton University
15.10: Princess Elizabeth: Holy Cross School (Can) v St. Mary's Prep. School (US)
15.15: Wyfold: York City RC v Bedford RC
15.20: Britannia: The Oratory School v Jacksonville Episcopal HS (US)
15.25: Diamonds: A T Pascall v P M Haining
15.30: Thames: Black Sheep RC v Hamburger and Germania (Ger)
15.35: Temple: Loughborough RC v Williams College (US)
15.40: Princess Elizabeth: Eton College v St. Joseph's College (Ire)
15.45: Wyfold: Vesta RC v R-G Hansa Hamburg (Ger)
16.50: Britannia: London RC B v Derby RC
17.00: Thames: Thames Tradesmen s RC v Staines BC
17.05: Temple: Jesus College, Cambridge v Queens' College, Cambridge
17.10: Princess Elizabeth: Shrewsbury School B v Bedford School
17.15: Wyfold: Upper Thames RC v London RC B
17.20: Britannia: Oxford Brookes University v Molesey BC B
17.30: Garda: Siochana BC (Ire) v Bowbridge BC
17.35: Temple: Exeter College, Oxford v Oxford Brookes University BC
17.40: Princess Elizabeth: Emanuel School v Diocesan College (SA)
17.45: Wyfold: Reading RC v Bowbridge BC
17.50: Britannia: R-G Hansa Hamburg (Ger) v Edinburgh University A
18.00: Temple: Downing and Calus, Cambridge v Norges Handelshoyskoles (Nor)
18.05: Princess Elizabeth: Shiplake College v The King's School, Chester
18.10: Wyfold: Star Club v Lea RC
18.15: Britannia: Syracuse University A (US) v Sheffield University
18.30: Diamonds: D Chaneka v P D Thomas
18.35: Thames: Walton RC v Kingston RC
18.35: Princess Elizabeth: Shiplake College v The King's School, Chester
18.40: Wyfold: Queen's Tower BC C v Queen's Tower BC A
18.45: Britannia: Vesta RC A v London RC A
18.50: Britannia: Edinburgh University B v Star Club
19.00: Thames: Nottingham BC v Cygnet RC
19.05: Temple: Oriel College, Oxford v Abingdon School
19.10: Britannia: Henley RC v Cambridge '99 RC
19.15: Britannia: Vesta RC B v Kingston RC
19.20: Diamonds: A T Dangerfield v R J McKenzie

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RUGBY UNION: ENGLAND COACH HAS HARSH WORDS FOR ADMINISTRATORS

Woodward attacks tour planning

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN CAPE TOWN

CLIVE WOODWARD yesterday could not resist one final lunge at the Rugby Football Union administrators whose planning has given the national coach and his players such a demanding winter schedule. "I wish people at the RFU who put this tour in place would front-up now and again at a press conference," he said.

Woodward repeated that he attempted to get the tour of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa called off when he became England coach last autumn. "We've travelled halfway around the world to play tests on successive Saturdays, but those people who arranged it don't have to play the match.

"I cannot get it through to their [RFU Administrators] thick heads that they cannot make commitments on behalf of players they have no control over through primacy of contract."

England have been beaten 76-0 by Australia and 64-22 by New Zealand and could come in for more punishment from South Africa at Newlands on Saturday.

Woodward has already succeeded in changing the England tour plans for next summer, although they will still play a Cook Cup match against Australia. "Next July we should be doing other things for the World Cup rather than playing tests," he said. "If we have to go to Australia next summer, there are a lot of players in England who might enjoy the trip."

For now, however, his ambition is limited to coming out of a one-off international against the World Cup holders with dignity. He hopes that Garath Archer will be in contention after recovering from an ankle injury and Austin Healey's shoulder damage has proved less serious than was first feared.

Paul Sampson, the Wasps wing, has joined the party as cover for Healey, but Spencer Brown will surely receive his second cap on the right wing in place of the injured Tom Beim. South Africa are expected to show two changes from the team that started the victory over Wales last weekend, Henry Honiball resuming at fly half and Franco Smith moving to centre.

FOR THE RECORD

BOWLS

AYR AND NORTHFIELD: British Championships: Singles: Semi-finals: R Brittan (Eng) bt D Gourlay (Scot) 21-14; S Jackson (Wales) bt M Mollatt (Channel Islands) 21-8. Pairs: Scotland (G Coppard and G Adrain) bt Ireland (J Perry and E Hughes) 16-15. Triples: England (P Barlow, A Baxter and S Farish) bt Scotland (W Scott, G Laurie and G Byrne) 18-16. Fours: England (M Dyer, A Stevenson, M Biggs and S Warren) bt Ireland (David Roe, M Nelson, Donald Roe and J Ross) 29-9.
POLLOCKSHAWS: Renfrewshire championships: Singles: R Moles (Titwood) bt B Sinclair (Fergeslie) 21-14. Junior singles: G Wilson (Wellcroft) bt S Summers (Cathcart) 21-18. Pairs: Benhoad (W Greer and M Young) bt Mellderrigs 16-15. Triples: Fergeslie (J Ross, J Dalton and T Moodie) bt Camphill 16-11. Fours: Queens Park (D Carlin, P Russell, J Aitken and S McGee) bt Lilybank 19-12. Senior fours: Titwood (T Cleland, C Russell, G Harris and R Boyd) bt Wellmeadow 16-6.

CRICKET

AON TROPHY: Northampton: Minor Counties 122 (G P Swann 4-33); Northamptonshire 123-1 (G P Swann 71 not out). Southampton: Hampshire 189-9 (43 overs); Worcestershire 117-1 (A Hafeez 64 not out). Worcestershire won on scoring rate.
INTER-COUNTY MATCHES: Under-15: Cumbria 193-6 (D Barnes 75) Durham 132-9 (A Lamb 52). Cheshire 217-8 dec (Greaves 62) Cleveland 183-3 (C Symington 110 not out). Buckinghamshire 132 Northamptonshire 133-5; Middlesex 179-5 Norfolk 180-2 (J Spellman 80). Worcestershire 207-9 (E Bayliss 108 not out) Shropshire 194 (L Edwards 4-51); Cumbria 170 Durham 102-8. Cheshire 217-8 dec Cleveland 183-3. Under-13: Cumbria 170 (L Cook 50 not out) Durham 102-8 (S Dawson 5-14); Cumbria 193-6 Durham 132-9.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Culford 138 Forest 142-3: Bancroft's 62 Merzberg College (SA) 236-8 (Ferreria 105). Bishop's Stortford Col 147 Eltham 141-7. Bishop's Stortford 180 The Leys 143; Brighton 194-9 Lancing 102-7, Epsom 114 Brighton 115-1. Fettes 150 Loretto 112-9. John Fisher 204-7 dec (T Murtagh 136 not out) Hampton 146-4, MCC 200-3 dec Woodhouse Grove 135-9; MCC 231-3 Eltham 221-9; MCC 182-3 dec Denstone 183-7. Millfield 92 King's, Taunton 95-3. Oakham 160-5 Bishop's Stortford Col 161-3. Old Blues 208-7 dec Christ's Hospital 209-6. Old Newcastlians 143-9 Newcastle-Under-Lyme 144-6. Rondebosch HS (Capa Town) 276-2 dec (J Trott 106) Denstone 177-6 (W J L Bagshawe 100); RGS Guildford 164-5 Kingston 136-8; St George's Weybridge 123 RGS Guildford 124-9. St John's Leatherhead 198-7 dec Epsom 86-8. XL Club 181-8 Woodhouse Grove 183-4.

CYCLING

PREMIER CALENDAR ROAD RACE SERIES: 1, C Newton (Team Brite) 355pts, 2, J Clay (Brite) 304, 3, M Illingworth (Brite) 225, 4, J Bayfield (Harrodis) 179, 5, J Tanner (Brite) 157; 6, B Smith (Clarke's Contracts) 138.

MODERN PENTATHLON

ROME, Italy: Junior European Championships: Men: 1, R Salonhusine (Russ) 5,448pts, 2, D Cherkovskiy (Lat) 5,381; 3, D Crescimbeni (It) 5,363, 4, C Vialis (Fr) 5,267; 5, C Sappa (Fr) 5,283, 6, V Horvath (Hun) 5,235; 7, G Hancock (GB) 5,206. Women: 1, C Corsini (It) 5,301pts; 2, Z Voros (Hun) 5,209, 3, E Roche (Ger) 5,148; 4, L Grolichova (Cz) 5,123; 5, G Caffero (It) 5,116, 6, T Mouratova (Russ) 5,106; 10, G Harland (GB) 5,019.

SHOOTING

BISLEY: RAF rifle championship: Target rifle: 1, S/Ldr D Calvert (Wytom) 197.26, 2, F/Sgt M Silver (Halton) 192.15, 3, Sgt J Prictor (Bruggen) 188.20. RAF women's championship: 1, F/Lt K Martin (Bruggen) 184.12. Target rifle grand aggregate: 1, Calvert 391.43, 2, Silver 388.33, 3, S/Ldr C Fitzpatrick 377.33; 4, W/Cdr C Hockley 377.31. Royal Navy championships: General's Cup: 1, Portsmouth 889; 2, Air 885, 3, Plymouth 849. Trotter Cup: 1, Air 1,526, 2, Portsmouth 1,372, 3, Plymouth 1,199. RN and RM Queen's Medal: 1, AEM Trainor 172, 2, WO T Sands (RM) 170; equal 3, PO Walden (Air) and Lt N Donnelly both 167.

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Exeter 49 Arena Essex 40; Reading 39 Hull 33 (abandoned after 12 heats because of rain, result stands). Newcastle 51 Isle of Wight 39.
SPEEDWAY STAR CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Wolverhampton 49 Coventry 41.
SILVER HELMET MATCH CHAMPIONSHIP: N Pedersen (Newcastle) bt S Masters (Isle of Wight).
BRITISH DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE: Exeter 21 Arena Essex 15.

RUGBY LEAGUE

MASON COMMUNICATIONS STUDENT CHAMPIONSHIP: England 19 Wales 8, Scotland 5 Ireland 22.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, first day of four, 104 overs minimum
DERBY: Derbyshire v Essex
DARLINGTON: Durham v Leicestershire
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Surrey
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Gloucestershire
MAIDSTONE: Kent v Yorkshire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Middlesex
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Northamptonshire
1.0, first day of four, 104 overs minimum
HOVE: Sussex v Somerset
Axa League
5.05, 40 overs
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Lancashire
University match
11.0, first day of three
LORD'S: Oxford v Cambridge
SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Third day of four: Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset. Second day of four: Northampton: Northamptonshire v Warwickshire. Harrogate: Yorkshire v Worcestershire. First day of three: Wickford: Essex v Hampshire. Abergavenny: Glamorgan v Leicestershire. Harrow: Middlesex v Kent. Collingham: Nottinghamshire v Durham. The Oval: Surrey v Sussex.
MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: First day of two: March: Cambridgeshire v Staffordshire.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Mason Communications student championship
England v Ireland (at West of Scotland, 5.0) .....
Scotland v Wales (at West of Scotland, 7.0) .....
Tour match
W Div Aboriginals v Barla Great Britain (at Dubbo, 10.30am) .....

OTHER SPORT

ROWING: Henley Regatta.
SPEEDWAY: Elite League: King's Lynn v Belle Vue (7.45), Poole v Ipswich (7.30). Premier League: Hull v Arena Essex (7.30).
TENNIS: All England Championships (at Wimbledon).

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CRICKET

Sparkling Surrey buck the trend

BY RICHARD HOBSON

THERE is a credible theory that the best county side does not always win the championship. Success falls, instead, to the team with the most players who are nearly, but not quite, deemed worthy of England selection and available for the whole summer. Surrey, by leading the table at what is almost the halfway point of the season, are bellowing against that idea.

Ben Hollioake is the sixth player supplied to England this season. It might have been seven if Ian Salisbury were not injured. They take on Glamorgan, the defending champions, at Swansea today also without Alec Stewart and Graham Thorpe, also engaged at Old Trafford, the injured Mark Butcher, and Saqlain Mushtaq, whose father is ill in Pakistan.

TABLE

	P	W	L	D	Bt	Bl	Pts
Surrey (8)	8	4	2	2	24	26	120
Lancashire (11)	8	4	1	3	11	24	108
Sussex (18)	8	3	2	3	15	28	100
Durham (17)	8	3	2	3	15	31	100
Leics (10)	8	3	0	5	16	19	98
Yorkshire (6)	7	3	2	2	15	26	96
Kent (2)	8	3	2	3	7	27	91
Glouces (7)	7	3	3	1	9	27	87
Glamorgan (1)	8	2	3	3	16	26	83
Worcs (3)	7	2	1	4	16	21	81
Middlesex (4)	8	2	2	4	16	19	79
Hampshire (14)	7	2	1	4	11	23	78
Warwicks (4)	8	2	5	1	14	26	75
Somerset (12)	8	2	4	2	15	21	74
Derbyshire (16)	7	2	4	1	14	21	70
Essex (8)	8	1	3	4	9	26	63
Notts (13)	8	1	5	2	10	28	60
Northants (15)	7	1	0	6	12	14	60

(Last year's positions in brackets)

Glamorgan called upon just 14 players last season and only Robert Croft was required by England. They have used one more already this time around and must face Surrey without Waqar Younis, who underwent a scan on his elbow yesterday, but with Steve James back after what might be the shortest of Test careers.

There is bad feeling between the sides. The contest last year turned to open rancour as Glamorgan made no attempt to chase a target of 254 in 46 overs, thus ending Surrey's own aspirations to a title last won in 1971. Adam Hollioake, the Surrey captain, threw the ball down in disgust and David Gilbert, then the coach, warned that Glamorgan could expect no favours when Surrey faced Kent, the remaining title rivals, in the final game of the season.

Leicestershire, who are fifth, face fourth-placed Durham at Darlington knowing that James Whitaker, their thoughtful captain, will miss the rest of the season because of a knee problem. Chris Lewis, who left Surrey partly to satisfy long-term captaincy ambitions, continues to lead in Whitaker's stead. John Morris returns for Durham having missed four matches through a calf injury and Jimmy Daley, whose long periods in the second XI will not have gone unnoticed by certain other counties, steps in for Michael Foster.

An ankle problem forces Shaun Udal, the Hampshire vice-captain, to miss his second championship match in seven years. He is replaced by Zac Morris, a left-arm spinner, who makes his first-class debut alongside his brother, Alex, the former England Under-19 captain. Gloucestershire recall Nick Trainor to the top of the order at Southampton.

Worcestershire, bolstered by the return of Graeme Hick, omit Phil Newport and Stuart Lampitt against Northamptonshire, unbeaten but propping up the table. Bobby Chapman is recalled and will be pleased that the prolific Mal Loye is suffering from a viral infection.

Nottinghamshire, with nine defeats in ten matches at Trent Bridge, have Paul Strang and Paul Franks fit again to entertain Middlesex, while Somerset recall Andre van Troost, the fast but wayward Dutchman, for their visit to second-placed Sussex, who are unchanged. Play at Hove begins at 1pm.

Michael Slater captains Derbyshire against Essex in the absence of Dominic Cork, to England duty, and Karl Krikken, to injury. Both sides change their wicketkeepers: Steve Griffiths plays for Derbyshire and Barry Hyam for Essex. Steve Marsh, though, has recovered to lead Kent against Yorkshire at Maidstone.

A crowd of more than 12,000 is expected at Edgbaston for the floodlit Axa League game between Lancashire, the leaders, and Warwickshire, who need to win to move within two points of the Red Rose county.

Hollioake offered key to the door

Michael Henderson welcomes the return of one of England's brightest prospects



GRAHAM MORRIS

Hollioake is looking to hit the ground running at Old Trafford after his eagerly awaited recall to the England team

Five months short of his 21st birthday, Ben Hollioake is entitled to be starry-eyed and laughing. He has been a winner at Lord's in a one-day final, elected Young Cricketer of the Year and, at 19 years and 269 days, he became the second-youngest person to represent England when he played against Australia at Trent Bridge last August.

It is a decent CV for a novice but, as he knows, it is only the first rung of the ladder. He was dropped for the final Test against Australia and did not go to the West Indies with the senior side, being sent instead to Sri Lanka with the A team. He thanks the selectors for their sense, believing that he gained a maturity in Sri Lanka that would have been denied him in the Caribbean, but he is clearly keen to show his true worth in the third Cornhill Test against South Africa at Old Trafford, starting tomorrow.

But what is that worth? The young man has yet to score a championship hundred for Surrey, or take five wickets in an innings. Some people, looking at figures that do not exactly leap off the page, may wonder what he is doing in the Test side. If so, they should be patient. Hollioake has bags of talent and, given time and encouragement, he should take to the international stage without a hint of self-doubt.

Recalling the Test last year, when he was selected along with his older brother, Adam, making 30 runs and taking two wickets in a 264-run defeat, Hollioake said: "I did not feel completely out of my depth. I wouldn't say I performed as well as I had hoped, but I wasn't in awe of the occasion."

Now that he has been recalled, and stands as the first representative of a breed of talented young men who are eager for places in the England side, he wants to get cracking at once, with bat and ball. "I would like to perform straight away. I don't want to give people the option of saying that 'he shouldn't be given the rest of the series'."

Hollioake grew up a lot in Sri Lanka, where, despite the worst attempts of an error-strewn magazine article to paint a gaudy picture of life beyond the boundary, he batted with discipline and bowled steadily with the new ball. "I think the selectors got it spot-on by sending me there. I learnt a lot about my game, and a lot about general cricketing knowledge, with people like Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting around."

He reckons to have gained "a yard of pace in the past year, and in the next year or two I hope to get quicker. There is more control, too.

"In my batting I have learnt how to go on from forty and fifty to make proper scores." Well, he hasn't quite, apart from the two hundreds in Sri Lanka, but he is getting there.

It is a bit of a gamble, but the selectors should be commended for throwing him in at the deep end, for the waters are indeed deep. That much was clear at Lord's, where Donald and Pollock bowled so superbly. Hollioake is a talented cricketer, and an instinctive one, and England have need of his improvisatory gifts if they are to retrieve something from this series.

The media can do him a big favour by laying off the dreaded C word. Charisma is for bad actors and politicians on the make. It is a quality to which only the second-rate aspire. Outstanding cricketers, the ones who turn matches on their head, possess something different that occupies the territory somewhere between skill and presence.

It is too soon to say how much of it Hollioake has, and it is unfair to make comparisons with players of the past: to be more specific, one all-rounder of the recent past, who looms over English cricket. He must be allowed to develop in his own time and space and be offered the carrot more than the stick.

Hollioake feels there are other players, about the same age, who will follow him into the side, all burning with a desire to show people that England are not the rubbing-rags of world cricket. Andrew Flintoff, Owais Shah and Alex Tudor are three men close behind who can make big strides in the coming year.

For the moment, the stage is his.

Universities prepare to get reacquainted

BY JACK BAILEY

THE University cricket match may fall marginally short of being the most important fixture on the sporting calendar this week, but it retains the ability to cause the hearts of a great many people to beat a little faster. When Oxford meet Cambridge at Lord's today it will be the 153rd first-class fixture between the two clubs. It is also the oldest fixture on the Lord's list.

Last year Cambridge may have discarded their best chance of victory in favour of individual glory. They batted on during the last day to enable Railedge to score his century and Oxford, after a spirited attempt to win, survived, but only just. Now, as then, Anurag Singh is the Cambridge captain. Although held somewhat to blame for an abortive previous county match against Yorkshire, he is certain to have the best interests of university cricket in mind today.

Despite a late start, Singh is full of runs, as is House, also of Kent, one of four old Blues in a Cambridge team that possesses considerable talent. Notable examples include Mohammed, son of the former Pakistan Test player, Sadiq, and scorer of a century against Yorkshire, Pyemont, of Sussex and Loveridge, the New Zealand all-rounder, whose leg spin may be the most potent weapon at Singh's disposal in attack.

If Singh can make the most of his resources, Oxford and Jim Fulton, their captain, will be in for a stern test. The one-day fixture in the Parks this year saw Oxford out of their depth, particularly against Loveridge's bowling. But they do have the captain of last year, Wagh, presently in excellent form with the bat, and three other old Blues, of whom Byrne, the Australian, has recently been in fine fettle.

A worthy victory over Kent in their last match before Lord's should give Oxford confidence in their ability. It is some time since Cambridge achieved a similar feat. They still, however, hold a small but discernible edge on paper.

OXFORD: D R Lockhart (Keble), J A M Moins (Keble), M A Wagh (Keble) B W Byrne (Balliol), J A G Fulton (Brasenose, captain), J A Claughton (Keble), R Garland (Pembroke), J P B Barnes (Wycliffe Hall), D J Eadie (St Edmund Hall), S H Khan (Wadham), D P Mather (Green).

CAMBRIDGE: J P Pyemont (Trinity Hall), I Mohammed (St Catharine's), O J Hughes (St Edmund's), A Singh (Gonville and Caius, captain), W J House (Gonville and Caius) G R Loveridge (St Edmund's), B J Collins (Girton), M J Birks (Jesus), A N Janiech (Trinity), P J Moffatt (Hughes Hall), J P Lowe (Girton)

Scotland call up second XI for double booking

PESSIMISM is all too prevalent north of the border. Taking the view that they would not progress beyond the first round of the NatWest Trophy, Scotland arranged a three-day match at Broughty Ferry against Bangladesh to start on July 7. After their impressive victory over Worcestershire last week, they find they now have a fixture of equal importance on the same day.

Scotland will have to follow Australia's example of fielding different players in one-day and Test cricket in order to find an XI to play Derbyshire at the Grange in the second round of the NatWest. Diplomatically, they are treating both fixtures as of equal importance, but there is no doubting that a stronger side will be put out against Derbyshire.

Pitched back in

Sabina Park will stage its first Test match since the abandonment of West Indies' game against England after 62 balls

EXTRA COVER

on March 13 to 17 next year. Australia have agreed to play the second Test of a four-match series against West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica. The pitch, deemed dangerous and unfit in January, has now been relaid for a second time. The International Cricket Council will not, however, sanction the contest until it has been inspected by an "ICC-approved person".

Penny wise

Peter Bowler, the Somerset captain, found himself short of loose change at the Bath festival last week and asked Peter Anderton, the chief executive, for a coin with which to toss. Upon return to the pavilion, he was startled to be asked for its return. "But it's only tuppence, Peter." "Never mind that," came the response of his boss. "It's the principle that counts."

Taxing matter

A friendly between Hoveringham and the Inland Revenue in Nottinghamshire was held up for more than five minutes when a naked woman drove around the outfield and across the pitch on a quad bike. "Our opening bowler could not get his length right afterwards and we lost on the last ball," Francis Rodrigues, the Revenue secretary, said.

Word game

Revelations of a more sober kind from Justin Langer in his diary of the season on the Australia Cricket Board website. According to Langer, the offending words uttered by Mark Ramprakash, his Middlesex colleague, to Darryl Hair, the umpire, on dismissal in the second Test at Lord's, which prompted a fine and suspended ban, were: "Darryl, you are messing with my Test career." Very Rambo-esque.

Twin celebration

No batsman has been dismissed more often by one bowler in Test cricket than



Bowler: short-changed

Arthur Morris. Although Morris is considered to be among the finest Australia openers, he succumbed to Alec Bedser 18 times over five series from 1946 to 1954. Friendship transcended professional rivalry, however, and Morris is flying from Australia to be at a charity gala dinner in honour of the Bedser twins. Sir Alec and his brother, Eric, celebrate their eightieth birthdays on Saturday and the dinner at the London Hilton takes place two days later on July 6.

John Major, Godfrey Evans, Richie Benaud and J. J. Warr will also make short addresses. Among items up for auction are Sir Alec's sweater from the 1953 series against Australia and one of the balls used in the Trent Bridge Test, when he took 14 for 99 (including Morris, naturally). The money raised will be split between the Hillview Surgery Charitable Trust — a hospice — the Surrey County Cricket Trust and the Lord's Taverners. Tickets are still available by calling 01306 631926.

Lord's vote

Even Colin Ingleby-MacKenzie, the president of MCC and a man intent on admitting women into the club, had his reservations about allowing girls to roam the pavilion during the Eton v Harrow match at Lord's last week. Masters reckoned they would gravitate to the boxes, anyway, and were proved correct: 37 females were introduced by members, as opposed to twice as many men. This experiment will be continued at the University match, which starts today.

☐ "Good luck, Michael ... good luck, Angus ... ah, Tufnell. You will *try* not to get in any trouble, won't you?" so said Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth as England headed for the Caribbean in January. Tufnell tells the story himself in his tour diary, *Postcards from the Beach* (Collins-Willow £6.99).

FATHER TIMES

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SPORT IN BRIEF

Scotland warm to defensive duties

■ **BOWLS:** The home international series begins in earnest for Scotland, the holders, today after they secured an effortless 158-108 victory over the Channel Islands at Ayr Northfield yesterday. Scotland won on all six rinks, taking the maximum 22 points.

Their task will be made considerably more difficult by Wales, who will be eager to find their best form after their 127-92 defeat at the hands of England yesterday. Tony Allcock's inauspicious start continued with his quartet losing for the second day running. David Wilkins's rink recording Wales' only success. In the British Isles singles final this morning, Richard Britnan will play Steve Jackson.

■ **RUGBY LEAGUE: The capacity at Headingley has been raised from 18,000 to 22,000, with the installation of closed-circuit television being completed to comply with safety requirements in time for the Leeds Rhinos v Bradford Bulls match on Friday. The crowd figure could break the Super League attendance record of 20,429, achieved at the match between Wigan Warriors and St Helens in June 1996.**

■ **RUGBY UNION:** Justin Marshall, the scrum half, was yesterday recalled to the New Zealand squad for the opening tri-nations international, against Australia on July 11. Marshall snapped an Achilles tendon during a match for his Super 12 team, Canterbury, in March. He was expected to be out of action until August, but made a successful return for New Zealand A on Sunday.

■ **ATHLETICS: Denise Lewis, Great Britain's Commonwealth heptathlon champion, has withdrawn from the team to compete in the European Cup combined events contest in Italy on Saturday and Sunday. Lewis, 25, is still suffering from the effects of a ligament injury — sustained while competing in the Staffordshire championships in May — that prevents her from taking part in the long jump.**

New image fails to disguise old demons haunting the nearly-man of grand-slam tennis

Philippoussis in mood to make most of his talent

Alix Ramsay on the big-hitting player who was on the verge of leaving the game

A new haircut, a new tattoo and a new lease of life — well, for the moment at least. For a man who, a few days ago, was threatening to give up the game on account of his miserable form, Mark Philippoussis looked in remarkably good nick yesterday as he accounted for Jason Stoltenberg 5-7, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3. From a standing start — first-round loss at Queen's Club followed by deep depression — he now finds himself in the quarter-finals of Wimbledon facing Pete Sampras: Scud takes on Pistol Pete.

Shorn of his tangled locks and now sporting a clean-cut short back and sides, Philippoussis is a different man. Three weeks ago he did not even want to play here but, living in a rented house in Wimbledon Village and relaxing with his father and his sister, he is glad he changed his mind. With a two-week holiday booked to start at the end of the championships, he has decided to put everything into his tennis and not think about the possible outcome.



'He has got all the shots — it is just the thinking that lets him down'

Then again, most people will tell you that Philippoussis becomes a better player the less he thinks — Mark Woodforde said as much a couple of days ago. Pat Rafter agreed. When asked if Philippoussis has the game to win Wimbledon, the answer was a swift and emphatic "Yes". When asked whether he would win, it was a different story. "I've yet to see Mark maintain a decent mental state for two weeks and until he does that I can't say he's in a position to win it," Rafter said.

The Philippoussis game is more brawn than brain and once he gets everything behind the ball, at 6ft 4in and 14½st his shots are not so much dangerous as lethal. But getting the ball to land in court has always been something of a problem.

The talent and the shots are there. He can serve with fearsome velocity, he can leather his returns, he volleys with aggression and precision and, for a big man, he can scramble around the court to make stunning winners out of seemingly impossible situations. It is just the thinking that lets him down. If things are going against him he goes for broke, spraying bullets around the stands with reckless abandon.

He arrived on the scene in a blaze of glory two years ago, beating Sampras in the third round of the Australian Open and was immediately hailed as the saviour of the game Down Under. Young, rich and without a care in the world he enjoyed the trappings of fame and immediately dropped down the rankings, changing his coach a number of times.

But, overall, Philippoussis is a gentle giant and he means well even if he does not always get it right. He proudly showed off his new tattoo of Alexander the Great while in Paris. Well, he reasoned, it was better than a skull and cross bones and, anyway, Alexander was a Greek (like Philippoussis's family) and Great (like Philippoussis wants to be). Oh dear.

Still, against Stoltenberg all was well. He struggled slightly in the first set, going for outright winners when the simple option would have been a better bet, but once that was out of the way Philippoussis settled down to business. Stoltenberg is a neat and tidy performer who serves and volleys in the traditional Australian way, but against so much muscle power it was never going to be enough.

Next on the hit-list is Sampras, with the winner to face Tim Henman, should the British No 2 beat Petr Korda today. "I have got respect for Pete, he's got all the shots and he's the [world] No 1," Philippoussis said. "But I don't want to have too much respect because that could be dangerous." That sounds far too much like thinking to me, and that is never wise where Philippoussis is concerned.



Ivanisevic has declared himself too lazy to use a razor, but his victory over Martin yesterday confirmed that it is not too late for him to win Wimbledon

Ivanisevic rallies after close shave

SIMON BARNES



At Wimbledon

The great tragedy of Goran Ivanisevic's life is that he was never painted by Toulouse-Lautrec. His appearance, now more louche than ever, is of a forgotten symbolist poet shortly before last orders at Le Tambourin café in Paris in the late 1880s, with his seventeenth glass of absinthe beside him and Vincent already passed out at his feet.

Yesterday, he had a tricky match. As usual, his opponent was that difficult and dodgy player, Goran Ivanisevic. Goran won the first two sets, then Ivanisevic took over and lost the third, and damn near the fourth as well. Then suddenly, Goran got the upper hand again, reeled off a sublime series of points and won going away.

His other opponent was Todd Martin, a man who every year astounds me with his resemblance to a *Thunderbirds* puppet. He is one of Wimbledon's annually incarnate Dangerous Floaters; a man who can tap a service like Martin will always win a match or two here.

The match was held out on the ghastly and bumpy No 13 Court in a swirly wind, so things were ripe for a possible upset, and for a set and a half, Ivanisevic did his best to oblige. Then Goran strutted his belated stuff and won 7-6, 6-3, 4-6, 7-6.

It was odd to see, during one of the interminable rain delays of this tournament, a recording of Ivanisevic playing the final of 1992. He looked comparatively sane in those days but, even then, you did not have to be Sherlock Holmes to work out that here was an unusual psychological specimen. And he really should have won that day. In six years, he has not been able to shake off that truth.

Ivanisevic has become more ornate in the intervening years, letting his freak flag fly, as the song has it. The hair is longer and wilder and no more than half-controlled by the Montmartre-Apache headscarf. The beard could be a sound ploy — it worked for Bjorn Borg at Wimbledon five times in a row — and it adds a decidedly wild note. Here is a man, the beard proclaims, for whom the proper mechanisms for control do not exist. As if we did not know that already. "I just don't want to shave," he said of the latest fashion statement. "I am lazy."

By their press conferences ye shall know them. They give themselves away in that eerie, unforgiving arena within an arena, even, or perhaps especially, those who can utter nothing but coached-in clichés of stupefying blandness.

John McEnroe always gave the best press conferences. There were times when that little crypt beneath the Centre Court, through which the losers and the winners all must pass or be forever fined, turned into a confessional. Warming down is a ritual that all athletes go through after exertion. For McEnroe, the post-match press conference was a kind of psychological warming down.

Perhaps troubled and creative minds need it more than the coached metronomes, because it is much the same with Ivanisevic. You can always tell one of his press conferences from the unaccustomed sound of warm, affectionate laughter.

He spoke of his latest bit of self-reform, his search for psychological redirection as he set up a kind of second surge towards fulfilment as a tennis player: "I did a mistake. I tried to play cool, and I am not cool, you know."

No one has ever accused him of that particular failing. "It is better to explode straight away and be OK." I was writing the other day about the idea of tennis beginning a Campaign for Real People. Ivanisevic is one of the few practitioners of the sport who would unquestionably be recruited, and no one would give you a word of argument. Unless it is Goran himself, because you can never tell which way he is going to jump. But the truth of the matter is that Ivanisevic may be distinctly unusual and sometimes, it seems, not entirely sane — but always he is real. There is no escaping that.

For a start, he makes jokes. He keeps most of the ironies intact, certainly once the match is over and the broken rackets have been put back in the bag. There is no more humanising trait in the world than humour.

Unless it is failure. Ivanisevic should have won a couple of Wimbledons and collected a few other grand-slam titles to go with them. Unless he does so very soon, he never will. The absurd amount of money he has won — US $16 million at the start of the year — cannot buy him the comfort of knowing that he has, once, fulfilled the talent he has within him.

The act of tennis lies somewhere between the elbow and the mind. Goran in full flight is one of the great sights of tennis: the long-levered frame, a mad Zeus hurling thunderbolts, total and ferocious concentration. And then a dog barks and he is off with the fairies. Losing your concentration in grass-court tennis is about as sensible as a fighter pilot dozing at the controls in enemy airspace. Four points with half your mind on the possible weaknesses of the Croatia midfield and you are a break down and the set has gone.

Ivanisevic seems to be preparing himself for the unwanted award of the best player of his generation never to win Wimbledon, following such men as Rosewall and Lendl. But they won a lot of other things. Now or never: "I'm playing maybe the best tennis I ever played here."

Final Goran fact. He has three tattoos on his shoulder: a cross, a rose and a shark. "Does that sum you up?" "Yes."



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Relaxed Korda decides to rule practice out of court

By Julian Muscat
Tennis Correspondent

IT WILL be one-way traffic if the rhythms from Aorangi Park are any guide. As Tim Henman went through a vigorous 50 minutes on the practice courts yesterday, Petr Korda, his quarter-final opponent at Wimbledon this afternoon, will not have returned his clothes to the laundry.

Strenuous exercise was off the agenda for Korda, 30, who stretched his Achilles tendon late into his fourth-round victory on Monday. He held a racket for barely ten minutes. He struck a few services, a few passes and then indulged in a lengthy game of *bocci* — a southern European pastime similar to boule — with Tomas Petera, his coach.

Even then the portents for Korda, the No 3 seed, were not encouraging: he lost twice the usual stake through his wayward bowling. He laughed, juggled the ball with his feet and did everything other than play tennis. This routine is not unusual for the gifted Czech, although there was no denying that he pulled up gingerly after chasing a drop shot. It was the only time that he stretched himself in 20 minutes on view.

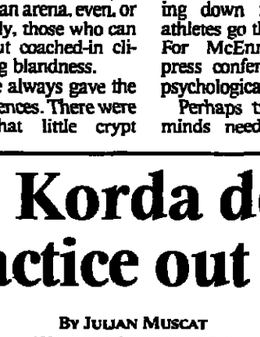
Henman, for his part, raised a fair sweat when he practised with Mark Hilton, the promising British junior, and more significantly, a left-hander, just like Korda. His opponent's injury was the last thing on his mind. "He has said it will be no problem for the match," Henman said.

Another intriguing factor within the match is the influence of Tony Pickard, formerly coach to both Korda and, until these championships, Greg Rusedski, Henman's rival. Pickard, who was captain of the Great Britain Davis Cup team seven years ago, was by the court on Monday night, urging Korda to dig in as the offending left leg was being strapped.

He admitted yesterday that he has split loyalties over the outcome. "I am in a win-win situation," Pickard said. "If Tim wins, I'll be more pleased than anyone to see a British player do well. On the other hand, Petr is a great friend of mine." Pickard revived Korda's career when he persuaded the injury-prone player to undergo surgery two years ago. Korda went on to win the Australian Open, his first grand-slam title, in January.

Korda gave little away after practice. "When the injury happened I thought I'd broken something," he said. "I had a bad feeling at the time, but it will be better for the match." Korda, who was well beaten when he last played Henman three months ago, has been reading the Briton's bold pre-tournament pronouncements. "He said that he is ready to win the tournament, but I won't sell my skin cheaply."

Henman felt that the key to victory rests in his ability to attack the Korda service, which can be vulnerable. "He is probably the best shot-maker in the game, but I feel relaxed and confident," Henman said. At stake is a semi-final match against the winner between Mark Philippoussis and Pete Sampras, the champion.



Henman: vigorous

Novotna finds her vehicle for success

By Nick Szczepanik

IF YOU can't beat 'em, join 'em — and then beat everyone else. That was probably Jana Novotna's idea when she teamed up with Martina Hingis to establish a formidable-sounding women's doubles partnership. Last year, Novotna lost to Hingis in the Wimbledon women's singles final after winning the first set; this year, playing with her, she may feel she is virtually guaranteed a title.

On paper, they look a great team on grass. It is not quite a partnership of equals, mind you — Hingis is sponsored by Opel, Novotna by Skoda — but Novotna is especially comfortable at the net, and Hingis is at home anywhere.

That is the theory. In practice, their opponents on Centre Court yesterday, Tina Krizan and Katarina Srebotnik, of Slovenia, failed to show proper respect for the No 1 seeds, taking the first set 6-4. Nevertheless, it all worked out for Hingis and Novotna in the end, although they faced some tricky moments before emerging triumphant, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

At such times, it must be encouraging for Novotna, bag of nerves that she can be, to look round and see that nerveless Hingis grin, the junior partner reassuring the senior, but Novotna can smile, too. It was tennis with a human face, as befits two players born in what used to be Czechoslovakia. Both made laughable errors in the first set that would have caused furrowed brows during a vital singles encounter; yesterday they were treated with the seriousness they deserved.

Krizan and Srebotnik were glad of the points, too. They forced the championship favourites to extend themselves and, after all, how many players can say they took a set off both Hingis and Novotna on Centre Court?

The second seeds, Lindsay Davenport and Natasha Zvereva, were also taken to three sets by Amy Frazier and Katie Schlukebir, but the two top-seeded men's combinations, Jacob Eltingh and Paul Haarhuis, of Holland, and Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde, of Australia, came through in straight sets.

Great Britain was guaranteed a win yesterday. Chris Wilkinson and Lorna Woodroffe beat Luke Milligan and Joanne Moore in straight sets and meet Haarhuis and Caroline Vis, the No 2 seeds in the mixed doubles.

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TENNIS

Sampras profits from making service charge

BY JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

ONE theme holds true amid the carnage of upsets in men's tennis: the serve-and-volley merchants are thriving at the Wimbledon championships. That theme was reinforced yesterday, when a frenzy of activity left the quarter-finals populated by six classic exponents of the grass-court game.

There was a further welcome development for the purists. With the three seeds in action all advancing in comfort, order has been restored to a tournament in grave danger of disintegrating. Five of the last eight are so blessed, but only one has yet to drop a set. Pete Sampras, the champion, never looked likely to stain that record against Sebastian Grosjean, a baseliner ranked No 117 in the world.

Grosjean, of France, has already made his Wimbledon mark, when he mastered Felix Mantilla, seeded No 16, on Monday. The world junior champion two years ago, Grosjean was quickly deflated by the nine aces that Sampras dished out in the first set and succumbed, without protest, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Sampras's previous match, against Thomas Enqvist, was resolved over four days and numerous rain breaks: this one lasted 92 minutes to leave him by some distance the freshest in the tournament. He has required only 400 minutes to register four victories so far.

A sterner test awaits Sampras today in the shape of Mark Philippoussis, the Australian who, to quote Sampras, "basically destroyed me" at the 1996 Australian Open. Not surprisingly, the American later identified Philippoussis as a significant threat to his dominance.

"He has got one of the biggest services in the game," Sampras said. "A couple of swings on the return and you can lose a set 6-4." Which is exactly how Sampras has been dealing with his opponents to date. The winner between them will tackle the winner of Tim Henman and Petr Korda, the latter one of the two remaining players who do not serve and volley in their sleep.

The other is Davide Sanguinetti, of Italy, who has been the surprise package of these championships. The world No 65 and a confirmed baseliner, Sanguinetti has astonished his countrymen by reaching the quarter-finals of his first grand-slam event. He had only previously won one match at this level, at the French Open last month. The native of Spezia, a fashionable seaside resort on the west coast, will not forget his Wimbledon debut in a hurry.

The first Italian quarter-finalist at Wimbledon since Adriano Panatta 19 years ago, Sanguinetti, 25, recovered from a five-set examination the previous day to account for Francisco Clavet, of Spain, 7-6, 6-1, 6-4. The Italian now squares up to Richard Krajicek, seeded No 9.

Krajicek, the champion two years ago, looked far from comfortable in completing a 6-3, 6-3, 7-5 victory over Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa. He slipped and hurt his right knee, which went under the surgeon's knife 18 months ago and has repeatedly plagued him since.

That setback arrived towards the end of the second set and almost certainly allowed Ferreira — himself carrying an ankle injury and strained stomach muscles — to poach a 5-3 lead in the third set. Krajicek then showed his instinct for self-preservation by racing away with the next four games to claim the match. It greatly helped that Ferreira seemed compromised on service, clattering double faults aplenty as Krajicek made his bid for sanctuary.

Krajicek, who received treatment immediately afterwards, was plainly worried by the implications. In the week before Wimbledon, he withdrew from a tournament in his native Holland to protect his long-term injury. "Before I came here I thought it would be OK," he ventured, "but now I don't know what will happen if it stiffens up and gets worse. I was lucky that there was another invalid [Ferreira] on the court."

Krajicek's compatriot, Jan Siemerink, has finally complied with the grand-slam run demanded by his talent. Siemerink, 28, has long excelled at the serve-and-volley game; he used the tactic to telling effect against Magnus Larsson, of Sweden, to prevail in four sets.

This marks the first time that Siemerink, the world No 23, has survived the fourth round at this level. Today he plays Goran Ivanisevic, the No 14 seed, for a semi-final place.

In the women's event, Martina Hingis, the champion, won an aesthetically pleasing encounter with Tamarine Tanasugarn, of Thailand, 6-3, 6-2. Like Sampras, Hingis has yet to drop a set; unlike Sampras, she has not been entirely convincing. She has already spoken of being underprepared and this time she declared the 11am start too early for her liking.

Hingis, 17, was banished to the relative wasteland of No 2 Court and she appeared to resent the experience. Tanasugarn also raised her game so that the opening set was strongly contested. When it mattered, however, the No 1 seed stretched away to a convincing verdict. Hingis said afterwards that her opponent's shots were so close to the lines that she should go straight on to a casino, yet she has been the one gambling with her title in the early rounds.

Natasha Zvereva, conqueror of Steffi Graf, is the only unseeded player among the women's last eight. There are some attractive match-ups, among them Zvereva's joust with Monica Seles, the sentimental favourite and No 6 seed. It was Hingis who said at Roland Garros recently that the first week of a grand-slam event was like practice for the second. That time is now upon her and she must raise her game several notches successfully to defend her crown.

GILL ALLEN



Krajicek stoops to reach a return by Ferreira during the former champion's win yesterday

Williams earns family honour with a smile

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

VENUS WILLIAMS was seen in very unexpected surroundings yesterday, many yards distant from her favoured baseline patrol, near a previously unfamiliar white object — the net.

Watched by Serena, her sister, who had retired injured against the same opponent the previous day, Williams disposed of Virginia Ruano Pascual in straight sets and, after overcoming early inconsistency, seemed to enjoy the experience hugely.

Smiling broadly whenever she put away a volley, which was surprisingly often, she satisfied family honour in some style. "I wanted to win all the points that Serena couldn't win yesterday," Venus said.

Serena did not stay for the second set, which meant that she missed a series of advances into unchartered forward territory that brought her sister considerable joy, in both senses.

"I tried more things," Venus said. "I was more diligent in coming in and actually attacking. With every match I'm able to play smarter and come in more. I'm serving consistently and that's important."

Usually, Venus refers to handwritten reminders at changeovers, but it is a sure sign of her increasing confidence that she is writing fewer, and managed to win yesterday without having a chance to write any. "I've generally eradicated a lot of problems in my game that I might have had, and I want to persevere and get better, but my note list has gone down." To a single line such as: "It's grass", perhaps.

However, she now faces Jana Novotna, an expert in the art of playing in the forecourt, after the No 3 seed eliminated Irina Spirlea 6-2, 6-3. "She serves and volleys, but she also stays at the baseline. It just depends on how she feels," Williams said. "She's a good grass-court player."

On No 1 Court, Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, of Spain, misfired again. She dropped the first set for the third time in four matches, this time to Dominique van Roost, of Belgium, the No 15 seed, who built a 5-0 lead before suffering an attack of nerves, allowing Sánchez Vicario three games before recovering her poise and taking the set 6-3.

Nevertheless, the feeling was that her rhythm had deserted her, and what followed seemed to confirm that. Sánchez Vicario winning 3-6, 6-3, 6-2. "For five games, I played perfect tennis," Van Roost said, "but it was impossible to keep it up. I got tired, although more mentally than physically."



Williams: confident

Having won the French Open and reached the final at Eastbourne, Sánchez Vicario has had little chance to rest recently, which may explain her slow starts. "I would prefer not to be in that situation, but I played well at the end, which is important," she said.

About Martina Hingis, her next opponent, she said: "She's the favourite, I've got nothing to lose. I'll be aggressive, take my chances and see what happens."

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Men's singles

Winner £435,000

Runner-up £217,500

Holder: P Sampras (US)

Fourth round

G IVANISEVIC (Cro) bt T Martin (US) 7-6, 6-3, 4-6, 7-6

R KRAJICEK (Holl) bt W Ferreira (SA) 6-3, 6-3, 7-5

P SAMPRAS (US) bt S Grosjean (Fr) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4

D Sanguinetti (It) bt F Clavet (Sp) 7-6, 6-1, 6-4

J Siemerink (Holl) bt M Larsson (Swe) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2

M Philippoussis (Aus) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 5-7, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3

Men's doubles

Winner £178,220

Runner-up £89,100

Holders: T A Woodbridge (Aus) and M Woodforde (Aus)

Second round

V KAFELNIKOV (Russ) and D VACEK (Cz) bt B Coupe (US) and D Dilucia (US) 6-1, 6-4

J BJORKMAN (Swe) and P RAFTER (Aus) bt G Stafford (SA) and K Ullyett (SA) 6-3, 7-5

J Gimelstob (US) and B MacPhie (US) bt M BHUPATHI (India) and L PAES (India) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4

D JOHNSON (US) and F MONTANA (US) bt G Kowes (Hun) and J Tarango (US) 6-2, 7-5

T A WOODBRIDGE (Aus) and M WOODFORDE (Aus) bt T Martin (US) and A O'Brien (US) 7-6, 6-3

Third round

J ELTINGH (Holl) and P HAARHUIS (Holl) bt S STOLLE (Aus) and C Suk (Cz) 6-4, 6-4

E FERREIRA (SA) and R LEACH (US) bt C Haggard (SA) and P Rosner (SA) 7-6, 6-0

P GALBRAITH (US) and B STEVEN (NZ) bt M DAMM (Cz) and J GRABB (US) 7-6, 6-2

Women's singles

Winner £391,500

Runner-up £195,750

Holder: M Hingis (Switz)

Fourth round

M HINGIS (Switz) bt T Tanasugarn (Thai) 6-3 6-2

J NOVOTNA (Cz) bt I SPIRLEA (Rom) 6-2, 6-3

V WILLIAMS (US) bt V Ruano Pascual (Sp) 6-3 6-1

A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) bt D VAN ROOST (Bel) 3-6 6-3 6-2

Women's doubles

Winner £154,160

Runner-up £77,070

Holders: G Fernandez (US) and N Zvereva (Bela)

First round

R Bobkova (Cz) and C Schneider (Ger) bt S Smith (GB) and J Ward (GB) 6-2, 7-5

R Grande (It) and G Nielsen (US) bt S APPELMANS (Bel) and M OREMANS (Holl) 5-7, 6-1, 9-7

L M McNeil (US) and C Rubin (US) bt I Gorrochategui (Arg) and I Spirlea (Rom) 6-3, 4-6, 11-9

Second round

S Fanna (It) and L Montalvo (Arg) bt M Grzybowska (Pol) and T Tanasugarn (Thai) 6-1, 6-2

E LIKHOVTSEVA (Russ) and A SUGIYAMA (Japan) bt K Kschwendt (Austria) and E Tatarkova (Ukr) 6-2, 6-2

L A DAVENPORT (US) and N ZVEREVA (Bela) bt A Frazer (US) and K Schlukebir (US) 6-1, 4-6, 6-3

C G BARCLAY (Aus) and K A GUSE (Aus) bt K Kunce (Aus) and C Morariu (US) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3

N NJIMUTA (Japan) and N MIYAGI (Japan) bt S Jeyaseelan (Can) and R Simpson (Can) 6-4, 6-3

A J Coetzer (SA) and S Testud (Fr) bt O Barabanschikova (Bela) and E R de Lone (US) 6-2, 7-5

Y BASUKI (Indo) and C M VIS (Holl) bt R Bobkova (Cz) and C Schneider (Ger) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4

A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) and H SUKOVA (Cz) bt C Dhenin (Fr) and E Loit (Fr) 7-6, 7-5

M HINGIS (Switz) and J NOVOTNA (Cz) bt T Kirzan (Slovenia) and K Srebotnik (Slovenia) 4-6, 6-1, 6-2

L M McNeil (US) and C Rubin (US) bt A FUSAI (Fr) and N TAUZIAT (Fr) 6-2, 6-1

E S H Cattaneo (Bel) and J Halard-Decugis (Fr) bt V RUANO PASCUAL (Sp) and P SUAREZ (Arg) 6-3, 6-4

Mixed doubles

Winner £75,700

Runner-up £37,850

Holders: C Suk (Cz) and H Sukova (Cz)

First round

M Mirnyi (Bela) and S Williams (US) bt G Grant (US) and C Cursisi (Rom) 6-1, 7-6

C Wilkinson (GB) and L A Woodroffe (GB) bt L Milligan (GB) and J Moore (GB) 6-4, 6-2

A Olhovskiy (Russ) and O Lugina (Ukr) bt P NORVAL (SA) and C MORARIU (US) 7-5, 3-6, 7-5

A Nuizmann (Aus) and E Tatarkova (Ukr) bt N BROAD (GB) and M DE SWARDT (SA) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3

R Koenig (SA) and N J Pratt (Aus) bt C Haggard (SA) and N De Villiers (SA) 3-6, 6-3, 9-7

K Braasch (Ger) and P Schnyder (Switz) bt L B Jensen (US) and D A Graham (US) 6-7, 3-0

W Black (Zim) and C Black (Zim) bt J L DE JAGER (SA) and P M ADAMS (US) 5-7, 6-2, 6-4

M Bhal (US) and L McShea (Aus) bt L Paes (Bel) and S Krwenticheva (Bul) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4

M Bamard (SA) and K Boogert (Holl) bt D ADAMS (SA) and A FUSAI (Fr) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3

P Albano (Arg) and M Paz (Arg) bt D E Sapsford (GB) and J M Pullin (GB) 6-1, 7-6

D NESTOR (Can) and N TAUZIAT (Fr) bt P Tramacchi (Aus) and R P Stubbs (Aus) 6-3, 7-5

S Stolle (Aus) and K Kunce (Aus) bt P GALBRAITH (US) and L M RAYMOND (US) 6-0, 6-4

D Johnson (US) and S Jeyaseelan (Can) bt D ORSANIC (Arg) and P TARABINI (Arg) 6-2, 6-7, 9-7

T Vanhoudt (Bel) and D van Roost (Bel) bt M Seli (US) and J Lee (Taiwan) 6-3, 6-3

M Rush (Ven) and F Labat (Arg) bt M Tebbutt (Aus) and C G Barclay (Aus) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3

D Bowen (US) and R Hirabi (Japan) bt S Noteboom (Holl) and M Oremans (Holl) 7-5, 6-4

W Arthurs (Aus) and K A Guse (Aus) bt K Ullyett (SA) and L Goldsmith (It) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3

J Delgado (GB) and E E Jelfs (GB) bt F Montana (US) and C Schneider (Ger) 6-3, 6-4

J Wase (US) and N Po (US) bt M OOSTING (Holl) and S APPELMANS (Bel) 6-3, 6-4

T J Middleton (US) and L M McNeil (US) bt K Kinnear (US) and N Miyagi (Japan) 7-6, 7-6

N Godwin (SA) and S Noorlander (Holl) bt D RODITI (Mex) and P SUAREZ (Arg) 7-6, 6-4

J Gimelstob (US) and V Williams (US) bt C Suk (Cz) and H Sukova (Cz) 6-3, 5-7, 6-4

A O'Brien (US) and O Barabanschikova (Bela) bt T Nijssen (Holl) and Y Basuki (Indo) 6-3, 7-6

Men's over-35 doubles

Holders: M J Bates (GB) and R Krishnan (India)

First round

G Donnelly (US) and D Visser (SA) bt A M Jarrett (GB) and J R Smith (GB) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3

K Curren (US) and C J van Rensburg (SA) bt L Shiras (US) and T Smid (Cz) 6-2, 6-1

A Jarryd (Swe) and J Nystrom (Swe) bt A Amritraj (India) and V Amritraj (India) 6-1, 6-3

M R Edmondson (Aus) and P Fleming (US) bt M Bahrami (Iran) and D Dupre (US) 7-6, 6-3

G Mayer (US) and T Wilkison (US) bt J B Fitzgerald (Aus) and W Masur (Aus) 1-6, 6-3, 7-5

C Dowdeswell (GB) and C J Mottram (GB) bt B Gilbert (US) and H Pfister (US) 6-4, 6-4

M J Bates (GB) and R Krishnan (India) bt P B McNamara (Aus) and P F McNamara (Aus) 6-2, 6-4

K Flach (US) and R Seguso (US) bt H Guenthardt (Switz) and B Taroczy (Hun) 6-3, 6-4

Men's over-45 doubles

Holders: J Fillol (Chile) and R L Stockton (US)

First round

M C Reissen (US) and S E Stewart (US) bt N A Fraser (Aus) and R J Frawley (Aus) 6-0, 6-2

R L Case (Aus) and G Masters (Aus) bt R C Lutz (US) and S R Smith (US) 6-3, 6-4

J G Alexander (Aus) and P C Dent (Aus) bt J Kodes (Cz) and A Metreveli (Russ) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3

K R Rosewall (Aus) and F S Stolle (Aus) bt I Nastase (Rom) and T S Okker (Holl) 6-1, 4-0, ret

J Fillol (Chile) and R L Stockton (US) bt M Cox (GB) and M Sangster (SA) 6-1, 6-3

B E Bamfield (US) and T R Gullikson (US) bt R A J Howitt (SA) and F D McMillan (SA) 6-1, 6-2

A A Mayer (US) and R Tanner (US) bt J D Newcombe (Aus) and A D Roche (Aus) 6-3, 4-6, 6-3

O K Davidson (Aus) and E C Drysdale (SA) bt J W Feaver (GB) and R Taylor (GB) 4-6, 7-5, 6-3

Women's over-35 doubles

Holders: J M Durie (GB) and A E Smith (US)

First round

J M Durie (GB) and A E Smith (US) bt L Charles (GB) and A Hobbs (GB) 6-1, 6-1

B Nagelsen (US) and R Nideffer (SA) bt M Jausovec (Slovenia) and Y Vermaak (SA) 6-3, 7-5

I Kloss (SA) and J C Russell (US) bt R Casals (US) and B F Stove (Holl) 6-1, 6-3

Boys' singles

Holder: W Whitehouse (SA)

First round

B Borrelli (Den) bt V Kannan (India) 6-1, 6-4; R Federer (Switz) bt P Langier (Austria) 6-0, 6-2; A Kracman (Slovenia) bt M Youchny (Russ) 6-1, 7-6; W J Cheng (Taiwan) bt L Chramosta (Cz) 6-7, 6-4, 7-5; L Zovko (Cro) bt J Adalsteinsson (Swe) 6-7, 6-4, 9-8; A Kedrynk (Kaz) bt J Melzer (Austria) 7-6, 4-6, 6-7; A Park (US) bt R Mello (Br) 7-6, 1-6, 6-1; E Massa (Arg) bt M Zwar (Egypt) 7-6, 6-4; F Anoln (Pol) bt S Aldulle (Ger) 6-2, 6-3; K Ivanov-Smolenski (Russ) bt L Childs (GB) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; D Grgic (Cro) bt F Gonzalez (Chile) 4-6, 7-6, 8-2; V Sanon (Ivory Coast) bt D Kleman (GB) 6-7, 6-1, 7-5; D Sherwood (GB) bt P Hammar (Ger) 6-4, 3-6, 7-5; J Haehnel (Fr) bt S Amonoo (US) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; J Jeanpierre (Fr) bt J Haro (Mex) 6-2, 4-6, 8-3.

Girls' singles

Holder: C Black (Zim)

First round

M Segusra (Ven) bt K Krishnamurthy (Can) 3-6, 7-5, 7-5; E Krauth (Arg) bt L Cartwright (GB) 6-1, 3-6, 6-4; J Tral (US) bt K Basiemakova (Slovakia) 6-1, 7-6; E Domatikovic (Aus) bt R Fujiwara (Japan) 7-5, 6-2; A Nikolaeva (Bela) bt I Viola (Cro) 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; T Parebyinis (Ukr) bt J Schnuff (Ger) 6-3, 6-4; E Dyrberg (Den) bt G Volekova (Slovakia) 6-1, 6-1; J Dokic (Aus) bt N Gradin (SA) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2; K Grunson (US) bt P Novenkikova (Cz) 6-4, 6-1; K Cassers (Bel) bt K Chevalier (Fr) 7-6, 6-4; D Bedanova (Cz) bt J Kostanic (Cro) 6-3, 6-4, W Laiho (US) bt N Gulum (Slovenia) 4-6, 6-4, 6-3; N Li (China) bt R Hudson (NZ) 6-3, 6-1; H Collin (GB) bt S Bammer (Austria) 6-2, 6-1; M Matevzik (Slovenia) bt L Harben (GB) 6-0, 6-2

TODAY'S ORDER OF PLAY AT WIMBLEDON

CENTRE COURT (12.0): M HINGIS (Switz) v A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp); J NOVOTNA (Cz) v V WILLIAMS (US); P KORDA (Cz) v T HENMAN (GB).

No 1 COURT (12.0): N TAUZIAT (Fr) v L DAVENPORT (US); M SELES (US) v N Zvereva (Bela); P SAMPRAS (US) v M Philippoussis (Aus).

No 2 COURT (11.0): J BJORKMAN (Swe) and P RAFTER (Aus) v M KNOWLES (Bah) and D NESTOR (Can); J Siemerink (Holl) v G IVANISEVIC (Cro), K Braasch (Ger) and P Schnyder (Switz) v M BHUPATHI (India) and M LUCIC (Cro); B MACPHIE (US) and L DAVENPORT (US) v M Mirnyi (Bela) and S Williams (US); P McNamara (Aus) and P McNamee (Aus) v H Guenthardt (Switz) and B Taroczy (Hun).

No 3 COURT (11.0): R Grande (It) and G Nielsen (US) v E Kim (S Kor) and M Saeki (Japan); J de Jager (SA) and R Koenig (SA) v T WOODBRIDGE (Aus) and M WOODFORDE (Aus); J Fitzgerald (Aus) and W Masur (Aus) v A Amritraj (India) and V Amritraj (India); M HINGIS (Switz) and J NOVOTNA (Cz) v N KUMUTA (Japan) and N MIYAGI (Japan); G Mayer (US) and T Wilkison (US) v A Jarryd (Swe) and J Nystrom (Swe).

No 4 COURT (11.0): F LABAT (Arg) and D VAN ROOST (Bel) v M Drake (Can) and L Osterloh (US); W BLACK (Zim) and S LAREAU (Can) v D JOHNSON (US) and F MONTANA (US); L PAES (India) and L NEILAND (Lat) v M Rush (Ven) and F Labat (Arg); D Johnson (US) and S Jeyaseelan (Can) v G Kowes (Hun) and B Schett (Austria); D Bowen (US) and R Hirabi (Japan) v J Gimelstob (US) and V Williams (US).

No 5 COURT (11.0): M Bates (GB) and R Krishnan (India) v K Flach (US) and R Seguso (US); E Callens (Bel) and J Halard-Decugis (Fr) v Y BASUKI (Indo) and C VIS (Holl); M DE SWARDT (SA) and D GRAHAM (US) v L McNeil (US) and C Rubin (US); C Wilkinson (GB) and L Woodroffe (GB) v P HAARHUIS (Holl) and C VIS (Holl); S Stolle (Aus) and K Kunce (Aus) v T Middleton (US) and L McNeil (US).

No 6 COURT (11.0): S Dickson (GB) v K Hippensteel (US); N Ostrovskaja (Bela) v S Hrozenska (Slovakia); A Olhovskiy (Russ) and O Lugina (Ukr) v M Keil (US) and L McShea (Aus); J Durie (GB) and A Smith (US) v M Jausovec (Slovenia) and Y Vermaak (SA); A Jarrett (GB) and J Smith (GB) v M Bahrami (Iran) and P Dupre (US); H Collin (GB) v K Clijsters (Bel).

No 7 COURT (11.0): M Mesa (Col) v C Seal (GB); F SARETTA (Br) v F Babej (Slovakia); J Hasek (Cz) v N Healey (Aus), L Charles (GB) and A Hobbs (GB) v B Nagelsen (US) and R Nideffer (SA); L Zovko (Cro) v R Brooks (GB); K Rosewall (Aus) and F Stolle (Aus) v O DAVIDSON (Aus) and E DRYSDALE (SA).

No 8 COURT (11.0): M Belski (Bela) v A QURESHI (Pak); V Raimrova (Cz) v T HERGOLD (Slovenia); O ROCHUS (Bel) v N McDonald (SA); K Granson (US) v J DOKIC (Aus); J ALEXANDER (Aus) and P DENT (Aus) v B Gottfried (US) and T Gullikson (US); M Matevzik (Slovenia) v E Dyrberg (Den).

No 9 COURT (11.0): I Tulyaganova (Uzb) v L Kalvaria (US); J DE ARMAS (Ven) v E Redondi (Arg); A VEDY (Fr) v D Penic (Cro); E KRAUTH (Arg) v T Perebiynis (Ukr); J FILLOL (Chile) and R STOCKTON (US) v R Case (Aus) and G Masters (Aus); D Bedanova (Cz) v W Laiho (US).

No 10 COURT (11.0): I LABADZE (Geo) v L Pampoulov (Austria); D Krstulovic (Cro) v L Dawaf (US); A Fasching (Austria) v K Pless (Den); E DOMINIKOVIC (Aus) v N Li (China); V Mazzarakis (Gr) v T DENT (US); K Ivanov-Smolenski (Russ) v D Grgic (Cro).

No 11 COURT (11.0): Z GUBACSI (Hun) v L Wood (GB); P Mutiner (Austria) v D Udomchoke (Thai); T Vanhoudt (Bel) and D van Roost (Bel) v D MACPHERSON (Aus) and R MCQUILLAN (Aus); D HANTUCHOVA (Slovakia) v L Baker (NZ); A Mayer (US) and R Tanner (US) v M RIESSEN (US) and S STEWART (US); V SANON (Ivory Coast) v J Haehnel (Fr).

No 12 COURT (11.0): A STEVENSON (US) v M Buric (Ger); P King (US) v R Vik (Cz); N Rencken (SA) v A Molik (Aus); J JEANPIERRE (Fr) v F Aniola (Pol); A Kracman (Slovenia) v R FEDERER (Switz); D Sherwood (GB) v E MASSA (Arg).

No 13 COURT (11.0): N KULTI (Swe) and D MACPHERSON (Aus) v Y KAFELNIKOV (Russ) and D VACEK (Cz); R KRAJICEK (Holl) v D Sanguinetti (It); A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) and H SUKOVA (Cz) v E LIKHOVTSEVA (Russ) and A SUGIYAMA (Japan); P Kilderry (Aus) and A Ellwood (Aus) v D NESTOR (Can) and N TAUZIAT (Fr); P Shriver (US) and P Smylie (Aus) v W Turnbull (Aus) and S Wade (GB).

No 14 COURT (11.0): E Bergmann (Br) v A McDade (SA); C Charbonnier (Switz) v K SREBOTNIK (Slovenia); I Gonzalez King (Arg) v B VERESS (Hun); A Cargill (US) v T PISNIK (Slovenia); K Curren (US) and C van Rensburg (SA) v B Gilbert (US) and H Pfister (US); B Boralla (Den) v A Park (US).

No 15 COURT (11.0): M Llodra (Fr) v A Ram (Isr); H Farr (GB) v A Mojzis (SA); P Albano (Arg) and M Paz (Arg) v N Godwin (SA) and S Noorlander (Holl); J Trail (US) v M SEQUERA (Ven); L Shiras (US) and T Smid (Cz) v C Dowdeswell (GB) and C Mottram (GB); W CHENG (Taiwan) v A Kedryuk (Bela).

No 18 COURT (11.0): K ADAMS (US) and M BOLLEGRAF (Holl) v C BARCLAY (Aus) and K GUSE (Aus); J Gimelstob (US) and B MacPhie (US) v N BROAD (GB) and P NORVAL (SA); A Coetzer (SA) and S Testud (Fr) v S Farina (It) and L Montalvo (Arg); M Bamard (SA) and K Boogert (Holl) v R Koenig (SA) and N Pratt (Aus); J Tarango (US) and E Likhovtseva (Russ) v A Kratzmann (Aus) and E Tatarkova (Ukr).

No 19 COURT (11.0): L Granville (US) v W PRAKUSYA (Indo); M Hilton (GB) v D Martin (US); J Waite (US) and K Po (US) v J Sanchez (GB) and E Jelfs (GB); A O'Brien (US) and O Barabanschikova (Bela) v W Black (Zim) and C Black (Zim), P RAMPRE (Slovenia) v A Nikolaeva (Bela), G Donnelly (US) and D Visser (SA) v M Edmondson (Aus) and P Fleming (US).

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SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Investment Account	Previous gross annual rate	New Annual Option Gross %	New Annual Option Net %	New Monthly Option Gross %	New Monthly Option Net %
£100,000+	6.80	7.05	5.64	6.74	5.39
£ 50,000+	6.40	6.65	5.32	6.36	5.09
£ 25,000+	6.05	6.30	5.04	6.03	4.82
£ 10,000+	5.65	5.90	4.72	5.65	4.52
Below £10,000	0.50	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

Flexible Savings Account (Formerly Instant Savings Account)	Previous gross annual rate	New Annual Option Gross %	New Annual Option Net %	New Monthly Option Gross %	New Monthly Option Net %
£25,000+	4.60	4.85	3.88	4.65	3.72
£10,000+	4.25	4.50	3.60	4.31	3.45
£ 5,000+	3.75	4.00	3.20	3.83	3.06
£ 500+	3.40	3.65	2.92	3.49	2.79
Below £500	0.50	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

30 Day Savings	Previous gross annual rate	New Annual Option Gross %	New Annual Option Net %	New Monthly Option Gross %	New Monthly Option Net %
£25,000+	4.60	4.85	3.88	4.65	3.72
£10,000+	4.25	4.50	3.60	4.31	3.45
£ 5,000+	3.75	4.00	3.20	3.83	3.06
£ 500+	3.40	3.65	2.92	3.49	2.79
Below £500	0.50	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

Tessa	Previous gross annual rate	New rate
	7.30% Tax-Free	7.55% Tax-Free

Lloyds Bank Account for Under 19s	Interest Paid Quarterly Gross %	Interest Paid Quarterly Net %
£1+	4.00	3.20

Young Savers	Interest Paid Quarterly Gross %	Interest Paid Quarterly Net %
£1+	4.00	3.20

Instant Gold Savings	Previous gross annual rate	New Annual Option Gross %	New Annual Option Net %	New Quarterly Option Gross %	New Quarterly Option Net %
£50,000+	6.00	6.25	5.00	6.01	4.81
£25,000+	5.70	5.95	4.76	5.73	4.58
£10,000+	5.40	5.65	4.52	5.44	4.35
£ 2,500+	5.05	5.30	4.24	5.10	4.08
£ 1+	0.50	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

Asset Management Service Investment Account	Previous Rate – Gross % Monthly Option	New Rate Gross %	New Rate Net %
£100,000+	6.60	6.83	5.46
£ 50,000+	6.22	6.46	5.17
£ 25,000+	5.89	6.13	4.90
£ 10,000+	5.51	5.75	4.60
Below £10,000	3.69	3.83	3.06

Interest rates may vary from time to time. This notice lists current rates. GROSS – Gross rates do not take into account deduction of tax at the lower rate.
NET – The rate of interest after deduction of tax at the lower rate; this is shown for illustrative purposes only. Certain customers may be able to reclaim the tax from the Inland Revenue.
TAX-FREE – The annual interest rate when interest is exempt from income tax. Interest is normally paid at the net rate, unless the Account falls within an exempt category or the Account-holder qualifies to receive interest gross.

Details of current savings rates are available by calling 0845 300 0102.

These rates of interest apply with effect from 1 July 1998

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THE WORLD CUP TODAY

BRAZIL v DENMARK

FROM MATT DICKINSON

No detail is spared by those who compile the World Cup's official website as the tournament comes to the boil. Denmark, we are told, are maintaining their diet of precisely ripened bananas, while Ronaldo feasted last night on *Churrasco*, a grilled meat speciality. Who will be the hungrier come Friday, when the Brazil striker must try to beat Peter Schmeichel in the Denmark goal, is a topic of mounting debate.

Certainly there are those who believe that Brazil may face their toughest test yet against the resurgent Danes. Beaten 2-1 by Norway in their final group game — the second time they had lost to Egil Olsen's side in a year — the South Americans do not relish their clashes of footballing culture against Scandinavian brawn. The Denmark team, in contrast, positively oozes confidence, having thrown off their inhibitions in the 4-1 second-round rout of Nigeria. "Our style of play had come in for a lot of criticism, so that made it extra pleasing," Michael Laudrup said. "Who would have placed a bet on us getting this far? I am the first to be surprised by our performance."

If it is all new for the Danes, through to the quarter-finals for the first time in the country's history, it is all a familiar story for Brazil and particularly Dunga, the captain, who has announced that he will be stepping down from the national team after this tournament. "I have played in it for 11 years and won the World Cup once already," he said. "My big regret is not winning an Olympic gold medal and that could persuade me to make an international return. The rules on over-age players have not been decided, but I would love the opportunity to compete in 2000."

Aldair, the Brazil defender, has been suffering from cramp, but is expected to recover in time for the quarter-final in Nantes. Meanwhile Mario Zagallo, the coach, has confirmed that Bebeto, who has scored two of his team's ten goals in the tournament so far, will start the game despite some criticism of his contribution alongside Ronaldo.

ON YELLOW CARDS

Brazil: Cáfu, Leonardo.
Denmark: M Rieper.

Nantes, Friday. Kick-off: 8pm.

HOT SHOTS

5: G Batistuta (Argentina), C Vieri (Italy).

4: M Salas (Chile), L Hernández (Mexico).

3: César Sampaio (Brazil), Ronaldo (Brazil), D Suker (Croatia), T Henry (France), J Klinsmann (Germany), O Bierhoff (Germany).

2: A Ortega (Argentina), M Wilmots (Belgium), Bebeto (Brazil), M Owen (England), A Shearer (England), D Bergkamp (Holland), R de Boer (Holland), P Cocu (Holland), R Baggio (Italy), T Whitmore (Jamaica), R Palacz (Mexico), A Hadda (Morocco), S Bassir (Morocco), V Moldovan (Romania), S Bartlett (South Africa), F Hierro (Spain), F Mostentes (Spain), Kiko (Spain), S Komljenovic (Yugoslavia).

FRANCE FAVOURED

The first of the quarter-finals on Friday is proving a close one to call. Ladbrokes have installed France as 11-8 favourites to defeat Italy, who are quoted at 15-8, in the Stade de France. Brazil, unsurprisingly, are 4-9 to beat Denmark (6-1) in Nantes.

IN THE NET

The Times World Cup 98
http://www.the-times.co.uk/worldcup
Coupe du Monde 98
http://www.france98.com/
Fifa 1998 World Cup
http://www.fifa.com/
BBC World Cup 1998
http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldcup
Yahoo World Cup
http://www.yahoo.co.uk/wc98/
Sky
http://www.sky.co.uk/worldcup/
Football 365
http://www.football365.co.uk

FINAL

Sunday July 12	Final	8pm	Stade de France tba, R5L/Talk

THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF

Saturday July 11	Third-place play-off	8pm	Parc des Princes tba, R5L/Talk

July 9 & 10 — REST DAYS

SEMI-FINALS

Wednesday July 8	Italy or France v Germany or Croatia Stade de France		8pm tba, R5L/Talk
Tuesday July 7	Brazil or Denmark v Holland or Argentina Marseilles		8pm tba, R5L/Talk

July 5 & 6 — REST DAYS

QUARTER-FINALS

Saturday July 4	Holland v Argentina	3.30pm	Marseilles	tba, R5L/Talk
	Germany v Croatia	8pm	Lyons	tba, R5L/Talk
Friday July 3	Italy v France	3.30pm	Stade de France	tba, R5L/Talk
	Brazil v Denmark	8pm	Nantes	tba, R5L/Talk

July 1 & 2 — REST DAYS

SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)

Tuesday June 30	Romania 0 Croatia 1 (Suker 45, pen)		34,700
	Argentina 2 (Batistuta 6, pen; Zanetti 45) England 2 (Shearer 10, pen; Owen 16) (aet; Argentina win 4-3 on penalties)		30,600
Monday June 29	Germany 2 (Klinsmann 79; Bierhoff 86) Mexico 1 (Hernández 47)		35,000
	Holland 2 (Bergkamp 37; Davids 90) Yugoslavia 1 (Komljenovic 49)		36,500
Sunday June 28	France 1 (Blanc 114) Paraguay 0 (aet)		41,275
	Nigeria 1 (Babangida 77) Denmark 4 (Moller 3; B Laudrup 12; Sand 59; Helveg 76)		19,500
Saturday June 27	Italy 1 (Vieri 18) Norway 0		59,500
	Brazil 4 (César Sampaio 11, 27; Ronaldo 45, pen, 70) Chile 1 (Salas 68)		48,500

FIRST ROUND

Friday June 26	Group H Japan 1 (Nakayama 75) Jamaica 2 (Whitmore 39, 54)		43,500
	Group H Argentina 1 (Pineda 36) Croatia 0		35,000
	Group G Romania 1 (Moldovan 72) Tunisia 1 (Souayah 10, pen)		80,000
	Group G Colombia 0 England 2 (Anderton 20; Beckham 30)		41,275
Thursday June 25	Group E Belgium 1 (Nilis 7) South Korea 1 (Yoo Sang-Chul 70)		48,500
	Group E Holland 2 (Cocu 4, R de Boer 19) Mexico 2 (Palaez 75; Hernández 90)		35,500
	Group F Germany 2 (Bierhoff 50; Klinsmann 58) Iran 0		35,000
	Group F United States 0 Yugoslavia 1 (Komljenovic 4)		39,000
Wednesday June 24	Group C France 2 (Djorkaeff 13, pen; Petit 56) Denmark 1 (M Laudrup 42, pen)		43,500
	Group C S Africa 2 (Bartlett 18, 90, pen) S Arabia 2 (Al-Jaber 45, pen; Al-Thynayan 73, pen)		34,500
	Group D Spain 6 (Hierro 6, pen; Luis Enrique 18; Mostentes 53, 81; Kiko 88, 90) Bulgaria 1 (Kostadinov 56)		40,500
	Group D Nigeria 1 (Oruma 11) Paraguay 3 (Ayala 1; Benítez 59; Cardoso 86)		36,500
Tuesday June 23	Group B Italy 2 (Vieri 49, R Baggio 90) Austria 1 (Herzog 90, pen)		75,000
	Group B Chile 1 (Sierra 21) Cameroon 1 (Mboma 56)		39,000
	Group A Scotland 0 Morocco 3 (Bassir 22, 85; Hadda 47)		35,500
	Group A Brazil 1 (Bebeto 78) Norway 2 (I A Flo 83; Rekdal 88, pen)		56,000
Monday June 22	Group G Colombia 1 (Preciado 83) Tunisia 0		35,000
	Group G Romania 2 (Moldovan 47; Petrescu 90) England 1 (Owen 88)		36,500
Sunday June 21	Group F Germany 2 (Mihajlovic 73, pg; Bierhoff 90) Yugoslavia 2 (Mihajlovic 13; Stojkovic 54)		40,775
	Group H Argentina 5 (Ortega 32, 55; Batistuta 73, 79, 83, pen) Jamaica 0		48,500
	Group F United States 1 (McBride 87) Iran 2 (Estili 40; Mahdavikia 84)		43,500
Saturday June 20	Group H Japan 0 Croatia 1 (Suker 77)		39,000
	Group E Belgium 2 (Wilmots 43, 48) Mexico 2 (Garcia Aspe 56, pen; Blanco 63)		34,750
	Group E Holland 5 (Cocu 37; Overmars 41; Bergkamp 72; Van Hooijdonk 79; R de Boer 83) South Korea 0		55,000
Friday June 19	Group D Nigeria 1 (Ikpeba 27) Bulgaria 0		48,500
	Group D Spain 0 Paraguay 0		35,300
Thursday June 18	Group C South Africa 1 (McCarthy 52) Denmark 1 (Nielsen 13)		36,500
	Group C France 4 (Henry 36, 77; Trezeguet 68; Lizarazu 85) Saudi Arabia 0		75,000
Wednesday June 17	Group B Chile 1 (Salas 70) Austria 1 (Vastic 90)		30,392
	Group B Italy 3 (Di Biagio 8; Vieri 75, 89) Cameroon 0		35,500
Tuesday June 16	Group A Scotland 1 (Burley 67) Norway 1 (H Flo 46)		30,236
	Group A Brazil 3 (Ronaldo 9; Rivaldo 45; Bebeto 50) Morocco 0		33,266
Monday June 15	Group G England 2 (Shearer 42; Scholes 90) Tunisia 0		54,587
	Group G Romania 1 (Ilie 45) Colombia 0		37,572
	Group F Germany 2 (Möller 9; Klinsmann 65) United States 0		43,815
Sunday June 14	Group H Argentina 1 (Batistuta 28) Japan 0		33,400
	Group F Yugoslavia 1 (Mihajlovic 73) Iran 0		30,392
	Group H Jamaica 1 (Earle 45) Croatia 3 (Stanic 27; Prosinecki 53; Suker 69)		38,058
Saturday June 13	Group D Spain 2 (Hierro 21; Raúl 47) Nigeria 3 (Adepoju 24; Zubizarreta 73, og; Oliseh 78)		33,257
	Group E South Korea 1 (Ha Seok-Ju 27) Mexico 3 (Palaez 51; Hernández 74, 82)		37,588
	Group E Holland 0 Belgium 0		75,000
Friday June 12	Group D Paraguay 0 Bulgaria 0		27,650
	Group C Saudi Arabia 0 Denmark 1 (Rieper 68)		38,140
	Group C France 3 (Dugarry 35; Issa 78, og; Henry 90) South Africa 0		55,077
Thursday June 11	Group B Italy 2 (Vieri 10; R Baggio 85, pen) Chile 2 (Salas 45, 50)		31,800
	Group B Cameroon 1 (Njanka 77) Austria 1 (Polster 90)		33,460
Wednesday June 10	Group A Brazil 2 (César Sampaio 4; Boyd 73, og) Scotland 1 (Collins 38, pen)		80,000
	Group A Morocco 2 (Hadji 38; Hadda 59) Norway 2 (Chippo 45, og; Eggen 61)		29,750

THE GROUPS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	0	1	6	3	6
Norway	3	1	2	0	5	4	5
Morocco	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
Scotland	3	0	1	2	2	6	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	3	2	1	0	7	3	7
Chile	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
Austria	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Cameroon	3	0	2	1	2	5	2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	3	0	0	9	1	9
Denmark	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
South Africa	3	0	2	1	3	6	2
S Arabia	3	0	1	2	2	7	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	3	2	0	1	5	5	6
Paraguay	3	1	2	0	3	1	5
Spain	3	1	1	1	8	4	4
Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	1	7	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	3	1	2	0	7	2	5
Mexico	3	1	2	0	7	5	5
Belgium	3	0	3	0	3	3	3
South Korea	3	0	1	2	2	9	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	3	2	1	0	6	2	7
Yugoslavia	3	2	1	0	4	2	7
Iran	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
US	3	0	0	3	1	5	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	3	2	1	0	4	2	7
England	3	2	0	1	5	2	6
Colombia	3	1	0	2	1	3	3
Tunisia	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Argentina	3	3	0	0	7	0	9
Croatia	3	2	0	1	4	2	6
Jamaica	3	1	0	2	3	9	3
Japan	3	0	0	3	1	4	0

FROM DAVID POWELL

It was not that dad forgot his son's birthday, only that he was otherwise engaged. Last Friday was Paolo Maldini's thirtieth birthday and the fact that Cesare Maldini, his father and the coach who has steered Italy into the quarter-finals, did not buy him a present has been quickly forgotten. No present, no grudge. Paolo, the Italy captain, has jumped to his father's defence over a vexed issue. Maldini Jr enjoyed a champagne birthday celebration on Friday evening, the day before Italy defeated Norway in the second round. Nothing too heavy to take the edge off performance the next day, just two bottles supplied by the hotel manager. And what had Cesare bought Paolo for his birthday, he was asked. "I have not had time," he replied. "His mother will think about that for me."

Cesare is still in the good books, though he has been taken to task on the issue of his attack. "I think the coach is giving all the strikers the chance to show what they can do and the criticisms aimed at him for doing so are unfair," Paolo said. "Italy needs a player like Del Piero, whose fitness can only improve in the next few matches, and, in Roberto Baggio, Inzaghi and Chiesa, we have strong options up front alongside Vieri. It is only fair to give everyone the chance to make the team."

If the harmony between the Maldinis is hardly surprising, the apparent dissatisfaction with Youri Djorkaeff voiced by David Trezeguet is. "I do not get any service from Djorkaeff," Trezeguet was reported to have said by *L'Equipe* yesterday. In the past few days, Djorkaeff has spoken to the president of his club, Internazionale, and said that he does not wish to play up front. Cue for a move? "There are only four clubs where I could would want to go," Djorkaeff said. "Real Madrid, Barcelona, Manchester United or Arsenal."

Already at Arsenal is Emmanuel Petit, but his participation in the quarter-final at the Stade de France on Friday may be in doubt. Petit is said to be suffering from "a serious thigh strain".

ON YELLOW CARDS

Italy: L di Biagio, P Maldini, F Moriero.
France: None.

Stade de France, Friday. Kick-off: 3.30pm.

CARDS

YELLOW

Argentina: J Veron, D Simeone, M Almeyda.

Brazil: Cáfu, Leonardo.

Croatia: Z Boban, S Bilic.

Denmark: M Rieper.

England: D Seaman, P Ince.

Germany: M Babbel, L Matthäus, M Tamat, D Hamann.

Italy: L di Biagio, P Maldini, F Moriero.

RED

England: D Beckham.

Cards refer to those given during the knockout phase unless stated

HOLLAND CLIPPED

Holland, after their last-gasp victory over Yugoslavia in the second round, came in just half a point to 5-1 with Ladbrokes yesterday to win the World Cup. Croatia, victorious over Romania yesterday, had their odds cut from 33-1 to 16-1.

TELEVISION
All matches are shown live or recorded on terrestrial TV.

RADIO
Radio Five Live, 909 and 693 MW.
Talk Sport, 1089 MW.

TEAM ON THE PITCH

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

WORLD CUP 98

Suker punch floors Romania

ROMANIA	CROATIA
0	1
	Suker 45 (pen)

(Bordeaux, 34,700)

FROM BRIAN GLANVILLE

HOW was it, on this hot afternoon, that the virtue so signally leaked out of Romania that, to vary the metaphor, they simply were never at the races. For those of us who had seen them play Colombia and Tunisia, perhaps it was not such a surprise as for those who might have watched them beat England. You might almost say that in this match they resumed where they left off at half-time against Tunisia, before they brought on their two usual strikers and set about saving the game.

You might also say that the symbolic moment arrived when Gheorghe Hagi, their talismanic captain, came off the field early in the second half after winning his 114th and final cap. Romania were never going to save the game, nor did they remotely threaten to do so. Croatia, who now meet Germany in the quarter-final, may only have won by a single goal, but they won by a distance.

Goodness knows how many more they might have scored had they only been able to deploy Alen Boksic, the striker of exceptional quality who makes even that other dangerous striker, Davor Suker look twice the man he is.

The decisive goal did not come in open play, when the resilient Bogdan Stelea had to make save after gallant save, but from a somewhat contentious penalty in first-half injury time.

Suker, perhaps inevitably, was involved in the affair, even before he put the kick away, though his involvement did not entail touching the ball. Instead, it was his dummy that sent Aljosa Asanovic chasing after the ball, to come down in a heap with Gabriel Popescu. Had he been deliberately pulled down? Was it just a hazard of the chase? The referee, Señor Castrilli, of Argentina, decided there had been intent. A penalty kick was given, but with a colleague encroaching, Suker had to take it twice before making it count.

Miroslav Blazevic, the idiosyncratic Croatia coach, deployed his troops well. This time, he did not use Robert Prosinecki, the long-serving playmaker, and he withdrew Mario Stanic into his normal position of midfield, rather than using him as a central striker.

Instead, beside Suker, Blazevic chose Goran Vlaovic, 25, who in his days with Padova in Italy had survived a dangerous cranial operation. He is now in Spain with Valencia, the club for which Adrian Ilie, the Romania striker, also plays. On this occasion, Vlaovic, lively and incisive, quite outshone Ilie, who had his name taken for a moment of petulence.

You had the impression all the time of tall, muscular Croatia midfield players striding through with the ball at their feet, whether it was Stanic, Jurcic or, on occasion, the accomplished Zvonimir Boban, whose return to the midfield made a colossal difference.

The Croatians began with a virtual bombardment. After six minutes, Stelea showed his mettle with a fine double save from Suker, although the forward was then given offside. Four minutes more, and Vlaovic moved on to a careless ball out of defence, struck it powerfully first time, and Stelea turned it behind. Another four minutes and Boban and Suker had set up Asanovic for yet another shot, beaten out by Stelea.

After 37 minutes Romania had what amounted to their only dangerous effort of the game. Petrescu cleverly released Ilie, whose lob forced Ladic, the Croatia goalkeeper, to leap high to catch the ball. Not much though, to show over the 90-odd minutes.

In the second half, the Croatians, who had somewhat gone into their shell for a while before half time, began to look interested and dangerous again. When Suker skilfully kept in a long cross from the right after a run by Stanic, the striker pulled the ball back and Boban came very close to scoring. Subsequently, Suker was able, almost casually, to shake off the Gheorghe Popescu, the Romania sweeper, and drive in another shot, which the gallant Stelea blocked with his legs.

Near the end, Stelea twice came to his team's rescue in rapid succession. Boban moved in on Asanovic's pass to be frustrated, then was involved again when Petar Krpan, the substitute, shot. Once again, Stelea was equal to the challenge.

He was the one Romanian entitled to come off the field with some sense of pride.

ROMANIA (1-2-5-2): B Stelea (Salamanca) — G Popescu (Galatasaray) — L Cluboteriu (Dinamo Bucharest), I Filipescu (Galatasaray) — D Petrescu (Chelsea, sub: L Marinescu, Rapid Bucharest, 75min), C Galca (Español), D Munteanu (FC Cologne), G Hagi (Galatasaray; sub: G Craioveanu, Real Sociedad, 56), Gabriel Popescu (Salamanca, sub: A Niculescu, National Bucharest, 61) — V Moldoven (Coventry City), A Ilie (Valencia).

CROATIA (3-5-2): D Ladic (Croatia Zagreb) — I Stimac (Derby County), S Bilic (Everton), D Simic (Croatia Zagreb) — M Stanic (Parma; sub: I Tudor, Juventus, 72), K Jurcic (Croatia Zagreb), A Asanovic (Napoli), Z Boban (AC Milan) — D Suker (Real Madrid), G Vlaovic (Valencia; sub: P Krpan, Osijek, 61).

Referee: J Castrilli (Argentina)



CLIVE BRUNSKILL / ALLSPORT

Moldovan, the Romania striker who plays for Coventry City, is sent sprawling by Stimac, of Croatia and Derby County

Striker standing out from the crowd

David Powell on the unflappable forward who guided Croatia into the quarter-finals

The sports family Suker is enjoying its greatest success, which is saying something. Davor Suker, whose uncle, Drago, and sister, Nevenka, were volleyball internationals, and whose father, Tomislav, is a former Yugoslavia national record-holder for the shot, scored the goal yesterday that put Croatia into the quarter-finals of the biggest sports show on earth. Such a moment to savour that he scored it twice.

The first one did not count, though. Not that Suker was fazed when the referee ordered his first penalty to be retaken for encroachment. He struck the ball with his left foot into the same corner, low to the left of Bogdan Stelea, the Romania goalkeeper. This was Croatia Day either side of the Channel: Goran Ivanisevic reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon in time to see his country's footballers finish the job here.

When a man is given the sobriquet Sukerman, you expect a flying header, with arms stretched out behind, like wings, for the momentous goals. But Suker can take his chances in all sorts of ways. At Euro 96 he achieved the remarkable, lobbing one over the head of Peter Schmeichel, the Denmark and Manchester United goalkeeper, in a 3-0 win. Here, he showed aplomb from the penalty spot when chances were being missed, or saved, all around him.

Stelea had saved at point-blank range from Asanovic. Boban had fired way off target from a good position and Jurcic had blasted wide with a half-volley. Even Suker, with his extraordinary scoring record of 32 goals in 38 international matches for Croatia, had been unable to find a way past Stelea with an initial shot, then another from the rebound, before it became clear that he had been called offside.

Suker, though, earned the penalty, indirectly. It was his dummy that led to Gabriel Popescu being adjudged, controversially, to have fouled Asanovic.

In the next round, Germany know that they will have to watch him closely. Germany played Croatia at the same stage in Euro 96, when Suker scored an equaliser before losing 2-1.

At his club, Real Madrid, Suker has been out of favour. When the Spanish club won the European Cup for the first time since 1966, Suker was a substitute, making only a late appearance. It has been a vertiginous fall from favour.

Suker's form for his country has been undeniable, however. He was Croatia's top scorer, with five goals, in the qualifying tournament and, at France 98, this was his second match-winning goal, his third in all.

Suker, 30, demonstrated talent in a range of sport in his early teens but was persuaded by the coach of his club, NK Osijek, to play football. "He is a boy capable of kicking a ball very hard," the coach said, seeing in him then what the world sees now.

"I started as a defender because I was one of those who could kick the ball very far," Suker recalled. "As a boy, the most important thing is to play. The position does not matter that much."

Suker was brought up in poverty, a family of four living in a two-roomed flat in Osijek. Suker's mother was a cleaner, his father a factory worker and their son could only gaze longingly at expensive training shoes in shop windows.

Now he can buy all the shoes he wants. Though he had studied for a possible career in agriculture, or the media, he became convinced that his future was in football after scoring five goals in one match and earning a substantial bonus. "Those goals were worth more than the combined annual salaries of my two parents," he reflected.

Suker's media studies have prepared him well. "This is why I am never nervous or afraid during an interview," he said. As confident and sharp as he is in the penalty area, Croatian journalists say.

At the final whistle yesterday, the Croatia players split into two groups, piling on top of each other in celebration. Suker was the only one who did not join in. He jogged to the other end of the ground, where the Croatian fans had been chanting his name. As in the match, he was the one who stood out.



Suker looks to the heavens in triumph after his winning penalty

Davids is taking a vow of silence for Holland

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TWO years ago, at the European championship in England, Edgar Davids was sent home early after offending his coach. On Monday, he was again the centre of attention when his goal in injury time put Holland through to the quarter-finals of the World Cup — a fine time to score his first international goal.

Davids said afterwards that he had cramp and wanted to come off, but Guus Hiddink, the Holland coach, forced him to stay on — an ironic twist in that many thought that Hiddink would never let him on the pitch in a Dutch shirt again after Euro 96.

Then, Davids had accused Hiddink of being influenced by older white players and of consigning the younger black talents to the bench. Even though Davids made his remark as an aside to a Swiss television crew, he was undoubtedly not the only one aware of the divide. One photograph of the Dutch squad in England showed the team eating breakfast with the old white guard on the right and the young black players on th left.

In France, the Holland players have repeatedly faced questions about the atmosphere in the camp and whether the racial problem had been tackled. The response is that, yes, the mood is fine and, no, there are no problems. It is all in the past. End of story.

Davids, himself, has taken a more extreme approach, but perhaps an appropriate one. As well as scoring winning goals, he has discovered another talent — the art of staying silent. The Dutch press question him, but a stern-faced Davids refuses to comment. His only remarks so far have been in Italian to the Italian press. Occasionally, he will respond in English.

Davids's return to the fold has been remarkable. For two years, he has been in the international wilderness. His move from Ajax to AC Milan was not a success and many believed he would not be missed by Holland. However, since moving to Juventus at the start of the year, his fortunes have changed.

His form has been so exciting that Hiddink was unable to ignore him. His tackling has been exceptional and his running and passing have created chances.

The risk and the decision that was probably hard for the Holland coach to make has so far paid off.

WORLD CUP DIARY

Computer glitch hits ratings game

AFTER England's stirring 2-0 victory against Colombia in Lens last Friday, the BBC quite rightly crowed about its peak viewing figures of 24.2 million and an average of 22.4 million — record British ratings for the tournament. ITV had been toppled from top spot after its totals of 21.6 million and 19.4 million for the Romania v England match.

However, a glitch in the computer of Audits of Great Britain, which compiles the figures for the British Audience Research Bureau and other broadcasters, produced false accounting and the BBC ratings for Lens have been downgraded to 20.5 million and 18.9 million.

ITV's totals for the Argentina v Croatia match on the same day were also reduced, but the channel was delighted to have been reinstated at the head of the leaderboard.

☐ Expressing admiration about a fellow international sportsman can pay handsome dividends. No sooner had Christian Vieri, the Italy striker, declared his hero worship of Allan Border, the former Australia cricket captain, than an autographed bat was winging its way to France from Down Under.

"It's a token gesture of my appreciation of his kind sentiments," Border said. Vieri, scorer of five goals in the World Cup finals, was born in Italy but lived in Australia for ten years from the age of five.

☐ Supporters of Japan had little to cheer in their country's group H programme — three matches, three defeats — but they at least endeared themselves to the waste disposal burghers of France 98. Fans took along blue plastic bags to each match and used them to take away any rubbish left after the game.

"The sectors occupied by the Japanese fans were left cleaner than when they arrived," Keith Cooper, communications director of Fifa, said. He then added, rather unnecessarily, "It is a policy that should be adopted elsewhere, though if it was adopted in England they would no doubt dump the rubbish in someone's garden on the way home."

☐ British competitors were out in force for early practice yesterday for the US women's Open golf championship at the Blackwolf Run course in Kohler, Wisconsin, keen to get business out of the way before settling down to watch England against Argentina at 2pm local time.

☐ *Stat attack . . . Predrag Mijatovic's missed penalty against Holland was the first squandered spot-kick in the World Cup finals, excluding sudden-death shoot-outs, since Enzo Scifo, of Belgium, blundered against Spain in Italia 90. Thirty-seven penalties were successfully converted in the interim.*

Klinsmann laughs off ageist talk

FROM MATT DICKINSON IN ST-ETIENNE

THE question was designed to provoke, but Jürgen Klinsmann simply chuckled. Are the Germans past it, he was asked, but, even under the arc lights and in the sauna that was the press conference, he remained a picture of cool.

It was a fair question given that Berti Vogts's team, with an average age of 30, had been made to look every bit their advanced years in the 2-1 second-round victory over Mexico. Klinsmann simply grinned, scarcely a bead of sweat on his brow, and made a powerful case for the defence.

"We read all about the age thing, people saying we are too old," he said. "To be honest, we just sit around and laugh about it. You felt the temperature out there and saw how much work we put in. That is the sign of a tough, fit team, not an old one.

"We still have to improve certain things. We knew after the early games that we had to step up the pace and make it hard for our opponents to keep up and I think that showed better against Mexico.

"Of course we can play better. But we are also getting stronger and stronger and our rivals will not look forward to playing us. We have that great belief in ourselves and that is hard to replace. You cannot susbstitute anything for that."

And having carried them through against Mexico, who would bet against that self-belief helping the Germans to overcome Croatia in the quarter-final? It will be a familiar script. It was in the quarter-finals of Euro 96 that these two sides met. Croatia, more inventive and dynamic, should have won the game. Losing their discipline after a couple of rash challenges, however, they self-destructed to allow a far from impressive German side to advance and ultimately lift the championship.

It is asking too much to expect such feats from this German side. In goal, Andreas Köpke, 36, appears to be playing like a traumatised debutant, spilling easy catches and spreading anxiety among the back line.

Olaf Thon, the 32-year-old sweeper, has inexplicably been dropped while Lothar Matthäus, 37, has the legs to do little more than clear up any mess in front of the defence. None of Germany's wing backs appear to be in form, while Thomas Hässler and Andy Möller are showing signs of wear and tear.

It is only up front, where Klinsmann is proving that his spell at Tottenham Hotspur was simply practice for greater things, that there are signs of a genuine contender. Oliver Bierhoff continuing to threaten with his aerial power.

If those two remain in form, Germany can expect to beat Croatia and advance, once more, to the semi-finals, where they will meet France or Italy. Far short of their best they may be but, as Klinsmann said, no one will want to play them.

Failure preys on grounded Eagles

Andrew Warshaw on the recriminations prompted by Nigeria's unhappy exit

Straight after Denmark's third goal had plucked another feather from the wings of the Super Eagles, two of the Nigeria substitutes, Uche Okafor and Wilson Orumah, got off the bench, raised their arms in the air and stormed down the tunnel. They never returned.

Two hours later, in the depths of the Stade de France, Okafor, Orumah and their team-mates shuffled through a packed press conference, heads bowed and hearts broken. They knew, as did everyone connected with Africa's last representatives in the World Cup, that no amount of individual talent could hide the deficiencies exposed by their 4-1 defeat on Sunday.

Bora Milutinovic, the Nigeria coach, so cocky after the early win over Spain and subsequent qualification for the second round, tried to tell a joke. Asked whether he would be at his fifth consecutive World Cup finals in 2002, he looked at his watch and replied that he did not even know what he would be doing the next morning. It was a typical piece of Milutinovic mischief, but he was not fooling anyone with his efforts to hide the pain. Milutinovic, for all his wisecracking, had failed to deliver, just as the seven Nigeria managers before him since USA 94. Not one, not two. Seven.

"We didn't sack any of them," Col Abdulmumuni Aminu, the chairman of the Nigerian Football Association — nicknamed "No Future Ambition" by Nigerian journalists — said. "But maybe this is the time to give someone a longer spell, maybe one or two years. We obviously need a new strategy, someone who has time to learn about the players, our country and our environment."

Milutinovic learnt about none of them. Indeed, he was almost dismissed on the eve of the World Cup, so pathetic were the warm-up performances of the less-than-super Eagles, including a 4-1 defeat by Grasshopper of Zurich. The Nigeria players knew how tense things had been. "We had problems and you all know what they were," Victor Ikpeba, the African player of year, said. "We had the talent, we just couldn't use it to our advantage. We should have paid more attention to what the coach told us."

Celestine Babayaro, the Chelsea defender, said: "That's the second time this has happened to us." He was referring to 1994, when Nigeria were beaten in the second round by Italy. "We thought we would go far, but it's obvious we still have a lot to learn."

Aminu agreed that over-confidence might have contributed to Nigeria's downfall, along with poor preparation and lack of funds — an interesting excuse given that the team has an US $11 million sponsorship deal with Nike through to the 2002 World Cup. Whatever the reason, he acknowledged that the Africans had to rebuild. "We must make sure," Aminu said, "that this humiliation never happens again."

30p THE TIMES

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WORLD CUP 98



Ad break: Lothar Matthäus, the veteran Germany sweeper, enjoys a cup of the sponsor's product during a breather after training in Nice yesterday, as his side prepared for their quarter-final in Lyons on Saturday against Croatia. Photograph: Michael Urban

Suffering sensory deprivation

Lyons (before le Big Match in St-Etienne)

Deprived of British coverage as we are out here, all I can say is "Hey, I want my Sensor Excel back!" Those who are watching the tournament exclusively via Eurosport have been well provided by commentary, but unfortunately have started chewing carpets during the endlessly repeated ads. Snoopy bounces a football on his back for Konica (muffled scream); the moody Adidas boys perform in monochrome against a surreal backdrop (frothing begins); and then two men in pyjamas at the bathroom mirror each acquire a wrong right arm. "Hey, I want my Sensor Excel back!" says one of the men, hammering the partition. At which point, quite heavy hotel furniture is raised above the head and brought crashing down on the telly.

In all other respects, the World Cup's efforts to homogenise the towns and stadiums have been perfectly acceptable, however. It's good to know that a Snickers bouncy castle is never far away. At most of the grounds, there's an Opel car that nobody is looking at. The flags and primary-coloured stadium decoration are all of the same design, and even in airports you'll find fake grass and nets full of footballs, and the sign (which is everywhere) "*C'est beau un monde qui joue*".

Young people in green polo shirts dispense Coca-Cola and also Danone yoghurt — which inevitably raises the question, whoever thought of asking a yoghurt company to sponsor a global sporting event? Has yoghurt got sexy, all of a sudden? It's mucus-forming, surely.

In fact, in Lens on Sunday, I noticed that Danone had also sponsored a rather creepy art installation in the journalists' canteen. You peered into a fridge through a refracting optic window and saw inside, in three dimensions, edged with rainbow ... an empty yoghurt jar. Well, we were amazed, naturally. "Peut-être this is un hologram?" I suggested to a Frenchman, who had raised his eyebrows. "Non," he said, flatly. "It ees a yoghurt pot." We swapped expressions of despair. "Many, many people are brainstorming," he said, in an attempt to explain. "And zis yoghurt pot is what is produced, yes?"

How French towns look when not given over to football is something I don't know. In Lyons, yesterday, however, I found *métro* carriages painted with football scenes, and the Place Bellecour ready for a big show with acres of seating. This Saturday in Lyons, before the evening quarter-final, they are having a concert in the Boulevard de la Croix Rousse, featuring a rap band, a "swing, bee-bop"



combo, followed by Sambarena (from Brazil). Sounds great to me. On Wednesday, July 8, moreover, they have an opening entertainment described as "Claquettes" — which is very mysterious, since I've already looked this word up once, and it meant tap-dancing.

You see, when that man says "I want my Sensor Excel back", I suppose the joke is that he doesn't say "Hey, I want my arm back". Most of us would want our arm back, wouldn't we? Getting stuck with someone else's arm would be a terrible inconvenience. It might tie shoelaces differently, for instance, or be good at knife-throwing, but no good at playing the violin. Of course, what the chap also ought to be saying is "Hey, why does my voice come out all funny, have I been dubbed or something?" But he doesn't. He's just fixated on his razor, and I hate him.

And OK, I give up, which team does Karl-Heinz Riedle play for? "Liverpool," I say, every time this ad appears. Sometimes I say "Are you deaf? I said Liverpool," and sometimes I shout "Oh bugger off and leave me alone." You lucky people who can watch Alan Hansen and David Ginola have no idea what it's like being asked 18 times a day who Karl-Heinz Riedle plays for. When I get home to England I'm going to pay an extra TV licence, just to show how much the BBC is loved.

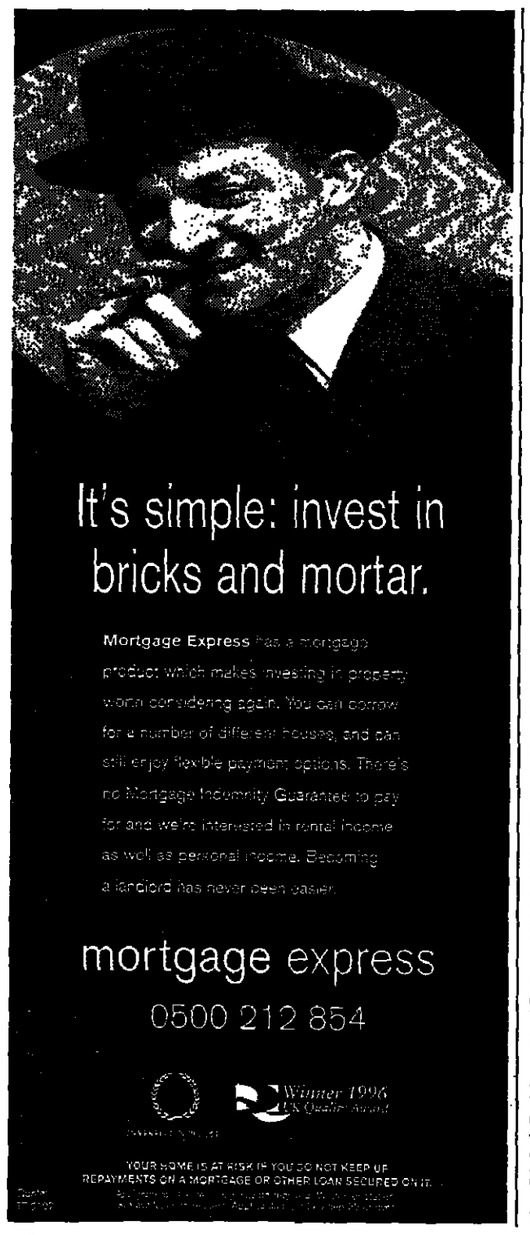
While on the subject of the home commentators, however, I must make an admission. I have been smiling at this crinkly bloke in the press centres, convinced he's an old chum, and he keeps just staring back. Well, I've just realised. It's David Pleat. On a far happier note, however, I got Gary Lineker's autograph on Friday at Lens and have shown it to anyone who will look.

In fact, for a BBC sports groupie, Friday at Lens was a big-hit day. Entering the unusually heaving canteen at the press centre, I bumped into Peter Beardsley, caught the eye of Trevor Brooking, and then saw Gary with Chris Waddle, John Motson and Martin O'Neill. Such a gaggle was guaranteed to evoke powerful mixed emotions — on the one hand, a broken-sobbed "You lovely, lovely, beautiful men", and on the other, "How I wish I was somewhere where I could hear what you'd be saying." Oh well.

Waddle was mobbed by the French (who adore him), and wore a jacket of the most exquisite lilac. But what else was it about him? Oh yes. He had the calm, untroubled expression of someone who did not, a dozen times a day, see a man in pyjamas thump a partition wall and demand back his Sensor Excel.

LYNNE TRUSS

'Has yoghurt become sexy, all of a sudden? It's mucus-forming, surely'



Tempting appetiser, but the main course fails to satisfy



REPRESENTATIONS have been made on numerous occasions, by the BBC and ITV, but they appear to have been ignored. The French host broadcaster is still frustrating the more discerning among its worldwide audience with erratic television coverage that, at best, is entertaining and enlightening but, at worst, is hamfisted and amateurish.

The chequered efforts of TVRS 98, the conglomeration of French TV companies specifically formed for the World Cup finals, were no better illustrated than in the second-round tie between Romania and Croatia in Bordeaux yesterday. Pre-match viewing consisted of a colourful trawl around the ground, a fat supporter wobbling his beer belly in time with the chanting and the by now obligatory babewatch. No complaints there.

As kick-off neared, it became something of a freak show. The Romania players still sported blond-bleached hair that was the result of a bet with Anghel Iordanescu, the Romania coach. "And here they are," John Motson, the BBC commentator, said. "The team with pots of marmalade on their heads." Completing the surreal picture, Zvonimir Boban, the Croatia captain, had No 10, his squad number, shaved on his scalp, while Miroslav Blazevic, the Croatia coach, carried a gendarme's hat. Was anyone taking the game seriously?

TVRS had done well: nothing better than a little appetiser before the main course arrives. However, it is when the game gets underway, when the frippery should be forgotten, that it falls flat. Pictures of cameramen having their sunglasses knocked off when the ball goes out of play and hits them, should not detract from what is happening on the pitch.

It is the coverage of important incidents, though, where the French producers really let themselves down. For example, what was going on at the end of the Holland v Yugoslavia game, when Edwin van der Sar, the Holland goalkeeper, withdrew angrily from the embrace of one of his teammates? Sadly, no one was any the wiser as the cameras panned elsewhere.

Much the same happened when Aljosa Asanovic, of Croatia, tumbled over in the penalty area under the challenge of Gabriel Popescu, the Romania midfield player. Javier Castrilli, the Argentinian referee, immediately awarded a spot kick to Croatia, but the replays were inconclusive, not least because it appeared there was no camera that could provide the required angle.

BBC were, thus, unable to resolve it at half-time, even if Jimmy Hill and his fellow pundits, Alan Hansen and Mark Lawrenson, were of one opinion — for possibly the first time during the tournament. "The man threw himself down," Hill said. A moment that had shaped the game had disappeared into the ether with only the most unsatisfactory of debates. But at least Blazevic was captured putting back on his gendarme's hat.

RUSSELL KEMPSON

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 39

SPIRITS OF SALT

(b) Hydrochloric acid, identified by Davy in 1810. Manufactured by electrolysis and, more commonly, as by-product of synthesis of chloro-hydrocarbons. It occurs naturally in the stomach.

MONTCONTOUR

(c) In April 1786, the Austro-Sardinians, led by General Argenteau, attacked the French, under General Cervoni. The French were driven back, but a detachment of 1,500 under Tampa outflanked Argenteau, who lost 1,000 killed and 2,000 prisoners. This was Napoleon's first win.

JOYSTICK

(b) A stick from the floor to just above knee-level. Connected to ailerons — surfaces on the tailplane — it controlled climbing and diving, and also lateral banking.

BREVET

(b) A brevet rank is given to an officer for distinguished service, meaning that he wears insignia, etc., but does not receive the higher rate of pay.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1.... Ng3! and if 2. Kxg3 Qh3+; 3. Kf4 Qh4 is mate. White therefore has to give up his rook on f1 for the black knight in order to deal with the mate threat. This leaves Black with an easy win on material.

TELEVISION CHOICE

A bucket brimful of talent

Funny Women
BBC2, 8.30pm

Patricia Routledge was a certainty for this series and she is duly celebrated as one of our finest comedy practitioners. If Hyacinth Bucket, her most famous creation, is sometimes dismissed as brilliant but one-dimensional this film demonstrates how much skill went into it. There are other, less applauded, examples of Routledge's gift for the pace, rhythm and timing of comedy, not least her Kitty in the Victoria Wood show in which she managed the difficult feat of doing a stand-up routine sitting down. But the programme goes beyond its ostensible brief to remind us of Routledge's range by recalling such non-comic roles as her 1961 appearances in *Coronation Street*, the Alan Bennett monologues, her portrayal of the nun Hildegard of Bingen and her OAP detective Hetty Wainthropp.

The Italian Kitchen
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Soups are on the menu tonight and very tasty they look too, even if stale bread turns up more than once as a key ingredient. Perhaps Italian stale bread is more appetising than the British variety. Rich in fresh vegetables, though the resident cooks Ruth Rogers and Rose Gray will allow the use of tinned tomatoes, the soups are nothing if not healthy. They also appear to be very labour-intensive, involving more time in the kitchen than some amateur cooks might be prepared to give. This is another argument for getting tomatoes out of tins instead of having to peel them. Particularly appropriate to the time of year are a green summer soup, and a lighter version of ribollita, which is normally served in winter. As usual Rogers and Gray deliver gimmick-free demonstrations and leave the stove for location reports, including one from the olive oil region of Tuscany.

Designs on Your ... Loo
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Having last week tackled the bra, the industrial designers Richard Seymour and Dick Powell turn their attention to another everyday object in urgent need of a makeover. Or at least that is their contention. The loo has been more or less in its present form for 200 years and Richard and Dick reckon that it is difficult to clean and uncomfortable to use. They attach themselves to Shires, respected North Country manufacturers of sanitary ware, and unveil their proposals. These include a non-stick coating, putting the flush into the seat to create a rimless bowl and raising the back of the bowl to give men more to aim at. If all this seems radical, and the Shires people certainly think so, it is nothing compared with the startlingly high-tech designs in Japan.



Ally (Calista Flockhart) lands herself in a heap of trouble (Channel 4, 10pm)

Ally McBeal
Channel 4, 10.00pm

Calista Flockhart's elfin lawyer is terribly good at her job but hopeless at managing her private life. Or so we were led to believe. But it has been more complicated than that — evidence of a show that is confident enough to set up one set of expectations and then confound them. In tonight's episode Ally can hardly do anything right. An altercation over potato crisps in a supermarket leads to a charge for assault, an accusation of shoplifting and questions about her mental stability. "How did I get to be a mess so soon in my life?" wails poor Ally. "You've always been ahead of your time," retorts her former childhood sweetheart. Ally might console herself that she is perfectly sane in comparison with the randy Judge Boyle, he of the fetish for hookers and gleaming teeth. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

State of Emergency
Radio 4, 9.00pm

I imagine most people are mystified at the number of separate inquiries that are set up for a given accident and the length of time each takes to report. The latter is easier to understand than the former but neither problem does much for public confidence, particularly when it is transport systems that are under the microscope. This new two-part series explores the "climate of safety" that is now regarded as an essential, especially in the travel industry. Curran visits investigators to find out what they do and how they do it, with particular reference to the Channel Tunnel and King's Cross fires. The Manchester air crash of 1985, which killed 55 people, is used to explain the workings of the black box flight recorder.

Postscript: This American Life
Radio 3, 9.05pm

Postscript is a very enjoyable little programme, even though in recent times it has fallen victim to the network's Head of Over-Titling, so that now it cannot get into the BBC's listings without subtitles and sub-subtitles. Ergo, *This American Life* is a series within *Postscript* and *Niagara Falls* is the title of tonight's programme (I shall be asking questions on this later). The subject is Ira Glass, a man with a mission. Glass, who could be Woody Allen's voice double, has a show on National Public Radio in America, which he broadcasts from a pier on Lake Michigan. His mission is to explain America to itself. Here, Ira finds the shabbiness of the town of Niagara Falls heavy with meaning for the wider America. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Dave Pearce 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 6.30 Steve Lamacq: The Evening Session 8.30 Movie Update 8.40 John Peel's Meltdown. Includes sets by Sonic Youth and Spiritualized 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Clive Warren 4.00 Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Nick Barraclough 8.00 Mike Harding 9.00 The Andy Peebles Soul Show 10.00 Johnnie Walker 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm Wimbledon 98 Commentary on the men's quarter-finals presented by John Inverdale 8.00 World Cup Phone-in 9.30 Reggae Boyz. Chris Walker takes a look behind the scenes at how the Jamaican team have coped with their first World Cup 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Paul Coyte 7.30 Ray Cokes 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Calmin Jones 5.00 Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.30am The New Talk Radio Breakfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Raeburn 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins 5.00 Bill Overton

WORLD SERVICE

7.00am News 7.15 World Cup Roundup 7.30 World of Football 8.00 News 8.15 Off the Shelf 8.30 Meridian Live 9.00 News; (648 only) News in German 9.10 Pause for Thought 9.15 Westway 9.30 Everywoman 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 The Farming World 10.30 My First 100 Days 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 One Planet 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm World of Football 1.00 News; (646 only) News in German 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Sports Roundup Extra 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Megamix 4.00 News 4.05 Sports Roundup 4.15 Performance 4.30 Everywoman; (648 only) News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 6.00 News 6.15 Insight 6.30 From Our Own Correspondent; (648 only) News in German 6.45 Sports Roundup 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 The Works 8.00 News 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Pause for Thought 8.30 Multitrack X-Press 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 On Screen 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Insight 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.05am Outlook 12.30 Multitrack X-Press 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Omnibus 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Meridian Books 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 The World Today 5.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Breakfast with Bailey. Nick Bailey introduces music to ease listeners into the morning 8.00 Henry Kelly Michael Barry prepares cucumber sandwiches. Plus, The Hall of Fame Hour 12.00 Lunchtime Requests Jane Markham introduces listeners' favourite pieces 2.00pm Concerto Offenbach (Concerto Militaire in G major) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Includes Afternoon Romance and Continuous Classics 6.30 Newsnight. Headlines, arts news and guests, presented by John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven 9.00 Evening Concert Liszt (Concerto Pathetique for Piano and Orchestra); Schumann (Symphony No 2 in C major); Brahms (String Quartet No 1 in C minor) 11.00 Mann at Night 2.00am Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am **On Air**, with Stephanie Hughes. Includes Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis); Mozart (Vorrei Spiegarvi, Oh Dio!); Stravinsky (Dumbarton Oaks)
9.00 **Masterworks**, with Peter Hobday. Includes Respighi (The Birds); Haydn (String Quartet in G minor, Op 20 No 3); Gabrieli (Jubilate Deo; Sonata No 18); Stravinsky (Eight Instrumental Miniatures); Ravel (Piano Concerto in G)
10.30 **Artist of the Week: Margaret Price**
11.00 **Sound Stories: Five Novelists — Jane Austen**
12.00 **Composer of the Week: Barber**
1.00pm **The BBC Lunchtime Concert: Mozart in the City.** Mozart string quartets recorded in a variety of historic London venues as part of this year's City of London Festival. Martinů Quartet. Douglas Patterson, viola. Endellion Quartet. Mozart (String Quartets in C, K170 in E flat, K171; String Quintet in C minor, K406)
2.00 **The BBC Orchestras.** BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Osmo Vanska and Jerzy Maksymiuk. With Nikolai Demidenko, piano, Valdine Andersun, soprano. Nielsen (Overture Maskarade) Sibelius (Symphony No 3); Prokofiev (Piano Concerto No 1); Gorecki: Symphony No 3 (Symphony of Sorrowful Songs)
4.00 **Choral Evensong.** Live from Carlisle Cathedral Master of the music Jeremy Suter. Assistant organist Charles Harrison
5.00 **In Tune**, with Sean Rafferty
7.30 **Performance on Three (Sounding the Century).** BBC Philharmonic under Vernon Handley. A special concert featuring the world premiere of a work by Arnold Bax written in 1916. With Dean Rigby, mezzo, Margaret Fingerhut, piano. Bax (In Memoriam, first performance; Concertante for piano left hand. The Bard of the Dimbovitz)
9.05 **Postscript: This American Life.** See Choice
9.25 **A Pocket Concerto.** Fitzwilliam Quartet, Lesley Schatzberger, clarinet. Weber (Clarinet Quintet in B flat, Op 34)
10.00 **The Piano**, with Piers Lane. The young Russian pianist Alexande Melnikov plays Schubert (Sonata in A, D664); Prokofiev (Visions Fugitives)
10.45 **Night Waves.** Patrick Wright talks to James Wilson about his history of Native America, *The Earth Shall Weep*
11.30 **Jazz Notes**, with Digby Fairweather. The second part of the concert featuring Ian Shaw and his trio
12.00 **Composer of the Week: C.P.E. Bach** (r)
1.00am **Through the Night**, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

6.00am **Today**, with John Humphrys and James Naughtie. Includes 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day
8.35 (LW) **Yesterday in Parliament**
9.00 **Midweek**, with *Times* columnist Libby Purves
9.45 (FM) **Serial: The Doctor, the Detective and Arthur Conan Doyle.** Michael Williams reads episodes from Martin Booth's biography (3/5)
9.45 (LW) **Daily Service**
10.00 **News; Woman's Hour**, with Jenni Murray
11.00 **News; On Watch.** Gerry Northam continues his look at issues surrounding Neighbourhood Watch
11.30 **Frank Muir: A Kentish Lad Remembered.** A tribute to the writer with contributions from Denis Norden, June Whitfield, Bill Cotton, Patrick Garland, Robert Robinson, Professor James MacCallum and John Amis (2/6)
12.00 (FM) **News; You and Yours**
12.00 (LW) **News Headlines; Shipping Forecast**
1.00 **The World at One**, with Nick Clarke
1.30 **Wordly Wise.** Peter Hobday chairs the panel game exploring words and language. This week's guests are Lorelei King, Graham Norton and Trevor Phillips (r)
2.00 **The Archers**
2.15 **Afternoon Play: Jack and Frances.** Michael Bakewell adapts the story of the love affair between the writer John Cowper Powys and the American poet Frances Gregg
3.00 **News; Gardeners' Question Time** (r)
3.30 **Elementary My Dear Rankin: A Fair Cop.** A new mood of realism swept the crime fiction reading public after the Second World War (3/5)
3.45 **Crime Stories: The Hanged Man,** by Ian Rankin. A hit man is hired to murder a fortune teller — with unpredictable results
4.00 **News; Case Notes.** Graham Easton looks at the healthcare system (r)
4.30 **Thinking Allowed.** Rituals, traditions and conventions under threat. With Laune Taylor and guests
5.00 **PM** 5.57 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **Audio Diaries: Doreen/Dorinda,** by Kay Stonham. With Tilly Vosburgh, Kate Williams and Chris Lang (r)
7.00 **The Archers**
7.15 **Front Row**, with Mark Lawson
7.45 **Under One Roof: Under Pressure** (r)
8.00 **The Moral Maze.** Michael Buerk and his team of regulars cross-examine witnesses about their views on the moral questions behind one of the week's headlines
8.45 **Maps for the Future: Jodie Foster.** The last of four programmes featuring speeches of inspiration and humour from graduation ceremonies past and present (r)
9.00 **News; State of Emergency.** Presented by Peter Curran. See Choice
9.30 **Midweek** (r)
10.00 **The World Tonight**
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: Scarlet and Black,** by Stendhal, read by Greg Wise (8/10) (r)
11.00 **Late Night on 4: The Way It Is.** Satirical sketches from Sanjeev Bhaskar, Dave Lamb and Fiona Allen
11.30 (LW) **Today in Parliament**
11.30 (FM) **The Mark Steel Revolution.** The first of six lectures examining some of the major historical forces at work during revolutions (r)
12.00 **News 12.30am The Late Book: Bombay Ice,** by Leslie Forbes. Abridged by Janet Hickson, adapted by the author and read by Harriet Walter (2/10)
12.48 **Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service**
5.30 **World News** 5.35 **Shipping Forecast**
5.40 **Inshore Forecast** 5.45 **Prayer for the Day**
5.47 **Farming Today**, with Anna Hill

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

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Battle of the sexes: time to pick your side

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

You have to admire the team behind Channel 4's **Why Men Don't Iron** for being brave enough to take on one of those festering battles between two tribes that have so rarely seen eye to eye — England v Argentina, which was being shown over on ITV at the same time. Trying to woo viewers away from that match must have felt like trying to tempt two mating rhinos out of the bushes with the offer of a Cheese Wotsit. But were those viewers with low testosterone levels (those with high testosterone levels were presumably watching the game, if we are to believe the findings of this three-part series) rewarded with any fresh insights into the differences between boys and girls that they (a) didn't know already, (b) hadn't already been told in last week's episode, or (c) felt able to put into any sensible context?

Full marks to the producers for even attempting to make such a complex subject digestible. But should they have tried to do this by putting only one side of the argument (that the brains of men and women are biologically different, therefore boys will play with guns and grow up to be aggressive capitalists, while girls will play with dolls and grow up to be caring nurses)?

And how does it make the arguments more digestible to describe the experts you are quoting only as "a psychologist" or "a neurobiologist" or "an anthropologist"? Do we want to hear evidence from "a psychologist"? It is like seeing an interviewee on *Newsnight* being referred to as "Fred Jones, politician". Your mind immediately wonders: is Fred Jones an American politician? Nigerian? French? Left-wing? Right-wing? Parish council? And how many balls have Argentina been trying to punch into the England net on ITV without the referee noticing? At least that's what went through *my* mind. But maybe this is because, being a man, I have a low boredom threshold. Maybe there were millions of women watching who were gripped from start to finish.

It all seemed a little unsatisfying in the absence of any sense of how pivotal this male/female brain difference is in relation to all the other influences in our lives. The makers themselves kept tripping up over this obstacle by continually reminding us that male/female behaviour is the result of "a *complex mix* of biological and social factors". They would produce evidence to support a theory that male and female brains did seem to have *some* different characteristics, but a lot of the evidence was of the "there are few female company directors, which shows that women are less ruthlessly ambitious than men" variety. Well, there are few black company directors, or black MPs — so are blacks' brains different, too? Do they lack the testosterone-induced competitiveness that drives white males to the top? If women have more fluent verbal ability, why are so many famous writers and playwrights male? Or are there too many exceptions to the rule to make the important but complex subject of gender differences in the brain explainable in a TV programme?

A report in last weekend's *Sunday Times Magazine* about abandoned Romanian orphans adopted by British parents cited work carried out by Dr Harry Chugani, a paediatric neurologist at Wayne State University Children's Hospital in Detroit, who has been studying brain activity in adopted Romanian children. Chugani says his results are far from conclusive but suggest that emotional deprivation suffered by these Romanian children has resulted in brain damage: "I believe that the critical time for emotional bonding is short — probably about two years. In the absence of emotional exchange during those years, the pathways and connections in the brain become flawed." Of course, Chugani's thesis doesn't conflict with anything we heard on *Why Men Don't Iron*. But it reminds us again that whether someone is born male or female does not dictate absolutely how they will turn out. *Why Men Don't Iron* doesn't suggest that either: it suggests only that whether you are born male or female has *some* effect on the sort of person you are, how you behave, what kind of job you might end up doing.

But *how much* effect? How important a part of the "complex mix of biological and social factors" is it that we were born male or female? Teeny? Huge? It didn't say, which was a bit disappointing, especially since the series is clearly aching to be provocative (hence the title). So to sum up our findings: the possibility of gender differences in the brain resulting in a "sexual division of labour" is certainly a fascinating challenge for neurobiologists to investigate. But maybe not when England are playing Argentina on the other channel.

BBC2 decided that Alan Titchmarsh was the man to send into the England-Argentina breach with the first of a new series of **Ground Force**. He grabbed this opportunity to woo football-haters with both hands. The novelty in this programme — part of the genre of TV shows in which couples have their house or garden transformed in 48 hours — is that he and his team produce a garden you might actually want to spend time in. The clever, but not clever-clever, transformation of Graham and Linzi's garden in Northwood, Middlesex — which was improbably long and thin, like a skittle alley designed by a drunk — was dramatic. Just one thing: how come so many garden designers, who one might assume from *Why Men Don't Iron* might have female brains, are men?

Now I really can't bear it any longer. I'm switching over to watch the footie, too.

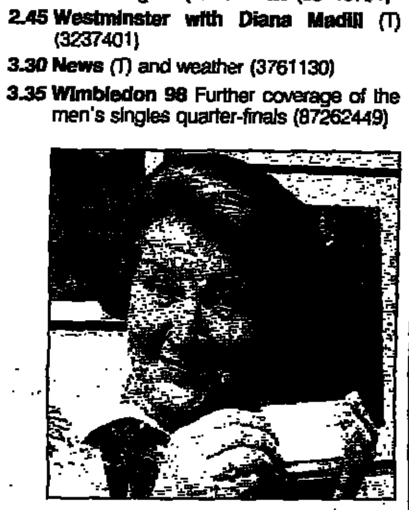
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (78642)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (49888)
9.00 All Over the Shop (r) (3467994)
9.20 Kilroy (T) (3745772)
10.00 Meet the Challenge (4363523)
10.25 Style Challenge Classics. (5418212)
10.55 Short Changes Novelty odds and ends (1941197)
11.00 News (T) (5474710)
11.05 Around the World in 80 Days Michael Palin blazes a trail right across Arabia in only 40 hours (r) (T) (7544866)
11.55 News (T) (6522642)
12.00 Every Second Counts (r) (T) (59604)
12.30pm Neighbours (T) (9194246)
12.55 Well Worth a Visit The Russell Coates Gallery in Bournemouth (r) (15534028)
1.00 News (T) and weather (42975)
1.30 Regional News (T) (15368517)
1.40 Wimbledon 98 Live coverage of the men's singles quarter-finals (30833517)
4.10 To Me, To You (9661710) **4.35** The Demon Headmaster T (r) (T) (3515791) **5.00** Newsround (T) (3463130) **5.10** Record Breakers (r) (T) (6068371)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (774197)
6.00 News (T) and weather (23)
6.30 Regional News (T) (75)
7.00 Confessions A Samantha Janus lookalike admits to fooling the people of Cyprus; Keith Chegwin spills the beans about almost ruining Tony Blackburn's career; and TV chef Richard Cawley owns up to past culinary disasters. Hosted by Simon Mayo (T) (1197)
7.30 Tomorrow's World Philippa Forrester meets a new robot capable of producing pop music, for new band Manus; Anya Sitaram examines why Italians' love of football could seriously damage their health (T) (59)
8.00 EastEnders Irene reflects on what she has learnt of Terry's past (T) (7517)
8.30 The National Lottery Draw The Bee Gees are joined in the studio by chart-topping singer Celine Dion; boy band Another Level perform their latest single (T) (701517)
8.45 Points of View (T) (724468)
9.00 News (T) and weather (3536)
9.29 National Lottery Update (T) (278265)
9.30 Diana, Princess of Wales Tribute Concert Jill Dando introduces a show celebrating the life of Diana, Princess of Wales. Recorded in the grounds of Althorp Park, with Sir Cliff Richard, Chris de Burgh, Lesley Garrett and Maxim Vengerov among the performers (T) (672468)
11.05 Any Which Way You Can (1980) Clint Eastwood reprises his role as prize-fighting trucker Philo Beddoe who, together with his faithful orang-utan, Clyde, gets involved in numerous brawls. Directed by Buddy Van Horn (T) (697062)
12.50 am The Producers (1968) Mel Brooks's Broadway satire starring Zero Mostel and Gene Wilder, with Kenneth Mars, Estelle Winwood (T) (8822869)
2.20 Weather (9778444)
2.25 BBC News 24

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BBC2

6.10am The Learning Zone: Docklands Light Railway (7331130) **6.35** Time for You (5866333)
7.00 Teletubbies (r) (1287420) **7.25** Goober and the Ghost (r) Chasers (3662913) **7.45** Get Your Own Back (r) (6872826) **8.10** Willy Fog (2885791)
8.35 The Record (2575994)
9.00 Yesterday at Wimbledon Sue Barker presents highlights of yesterday's quarter-finals matches (T) (88517)
10.00 Teletubbies (35197)
10.30 Beechgrove Clippings The Pencaitland garden of Beryl McNaughton (8359791)
10.35 The Man from Morocco (b/w, 1944) with Anton Walbrook and Margaretta Scott. Second World War drama about a prisoner who escapes from his German captors. Directed by Mutz Greenbaum (T) (75143159)
12.30pm Film '98 with Barry Norman (r) (T) (83159)
1.00 Wimbledon 98 Sue Barker and Steve Rider introduce live coverage of the men's singles quarter-finals (38410791)
2.45 Westminster with Diana Madill (T) (3237401)
3.30 News (T) and weather (3761130)
3.35 Wimbledon 98 Further coverage of the men's singles quarter-finals (87262449)



Patricia Routledge in her Hyacinth Bucket guise (8.30pm)

8.30 Funny Women Tribute to popular actress Patricia Routledge. With contributions from Alan Bennett, Michael Frayn, Nigel Hawthorne and Clive Swift (T) (7994)
9.00 Keeping Up Appearances Hyacinth limbers up her vocal cords in preparation for a solo accompaniment to her candlelit supper (r) (T) (1178)
9.30 Today at Wimbledon Round-up of the day's action (T) (85623)
10.28 Video Nation Caribbean Shorts (T) (590284)
10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman (T) (204468)
11.15 Made in Manchester The Mardi Gras carnival comes to town. Last in series (139159)
11.45 Lost in France (T) (628994)
11.55 Weather (508791)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (51463)
12.30am Learning Zone: Open University: Mapping the Milky Way (22463) **1.00** Jets and Black Holes (51024) **1.30** Cosmology on Trial (66444) **2.00** Body Matters: MRI (20463) **3.00** Elecricity, Magnetism and the Body (86192) **4.00** World Cup French (12005) **5.00** Business and Training: RCN Nursing Update (19550) **5.30** RCN Nursing Update (5688192) **5.45** Open University: Elastomers (91173)

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (1744159)
9.25 This Morning (T) (5454230)
9.30 Vanessa (T) (1999468)
10.10 This Morning (T) (34848284)
12.20pm Your Shout (4511555)
12.25 London Today (4510826)
12.30 News (T) and weather (76523)
1.00 London Today (60371)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (5886352) **2.15** Home and Away (T) (982178) **2.45** Supermarket Sweep (981449)
3.15 News (T) (1918739)
3.20 Regional News (T) (1908352)
3.25 Potamus Park (r) (1998975) **3.35** Titch (r) (7304081) **3.45** Slim Pig (r) (7391517) **4.00** Chatterhappy Ponies (r) (T) (2164265) **4.10** Garfield and Friends (r) (2160449) **4.20** Walter Melon (T) (9652062) **4.45** The Scoop (T) (3539371)
5.10 Home and Away (r) (T) (5012265)
5.40 News (T) and weather (640791)
6.00 London Tonight (T) (91)
6.30 London Bridge (1)
7.00 Emmerdale Mandy decides to play Pollard at his own game (T) (6265)



Roy (David Neilson) and Hayley (Julie Hesmondhalgh) need to talk (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street Roy and Hayley talk through their differences (T) (5)
8.00 The Bill: Stop When the homes of two female drivers are burgled DS Boulton suspects that PC Hollis may be involved (T) (5913)
8.30 Kavanagh QC: The Sweetest Thing The beleaguered barrister defends a prostitute with many enemies, charged with murdering a high-profile businessman (r) (T) (51061)
10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (45401)
10.30 Regional News (T) (394130)
10.40 Videotech Special Music from the Lighthouse Family, Des'ree, and Faithless (737082)
11.40 Absolutely Loaded Mark Frost and Nick Knowles pay a visit to a health farm when the pressures of having £20 million in the bank become too great (188791)
12.10am Motorway The pressures of travelling on Europe's busiest stretch of road (T) (7295127)
12.45 1969 (1988) with Robert Downey Jr, Kiefer Sutherland and Bruce Dern. The lives of two small-town American students are turned-upside-down when they become caught up in the anti-Vietnam protests of the 1960s. Directed by Ernest Thompson (676024)
2.25 One Summer in Whitby (T) (3914043)
2.55 Vanessa (r) (1733869)
3.35 Cybernet (16864598)
4.00 Soundtrax (59918395)
4.20 ITV Nightscreen (9094956)
5.30 News (56918)

MERIDIAN

As Carlton except:
12.15-12.30 Meridian News and Weather (2215062)
1.00 Shortland Street (60371)
1.30 Home and Away (26064)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (91)
6.30-7.00 Alfresco Outdoor Eating (1)
10.30 Meridian News and Weather (318710)
10.45 The Road Show (129772)
11.15 Tales from the Darkside (159913)
11.45 Renegade (455555)
12.50am FILM: Child in the Night (664289)
2.35 One Summer in Whitby (9792024)
3.05 Vanessa (2976032)
3.40 Cybernet (16844734)
4.10 Coach (36144145)
4.30 ITV Nightscreen (69043)
5.00 Freescreen (13376)

CENTRAL

As Carlton except: **1.00pm-1.30 A Country Practice** (60371) **5.10-5.40 Shortland Street** (5012265) **6.00 Home and Away** (154820) **6.25-7.00 Central News** (271642) **12.10am Pulling Power** (7295127) **4.00 Jobfinder** (1010901) **5.20 Asian Eye** (8997173)

ANGLIA

As Carlton except: **1.00 Hope and Gloria** (60371) **1.30 Home and Away** (26064) **5.10-5.40 Shortland Street** (5012265) **6.00 Home and Away** (154820) **6.25-7.00 Anglia News** (271642) **10.40 FILM: Deathtrap** (12907371) **12.50am FILM: Child in the Night** (664289) **2.35 One Summer in Whitby** (9792024) **3.05 Vanessa** (2976032) **3.40 Cybernet** (16844734) **4.10 Coach** (36144145) **4.30 ITV Nightscreen** (69043) **5.00 Coronation Street** (13376)

HTV WEST

As Carlton except: **12.15pm-12.30 HTV News and Weather** (2215062) **1.00 Shortland Street** (60371) **1.30 Home and Away** (26064) **5.10-5.40 Purches People** (5012265) **6.00 Home and Away** (154820) **6.25 HTV Weather** (691826) **6.30-7.00 The West Tonight** (1) **10.30 HTV News and Weather** (318710) **10.45 Corn Devils** (910246) **11.45 Take 3** (158284) **12.15am Tales from the Darkside** (8645668) **12.50 FILM: Child in the Night** (664289) **2.35 One Summer in Whitby** (9792024) **3.05 Vanessa** (2976032) **3.40 Cybernet** (16844734) **4.10 Coach** (36144145) **4.30 ITV Nightscreen** (69043) **5.00 Coronation Street** (13376)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except:
5.10pm House to House (5012265) **6.25 Wales Tonight** (271642) **10.45 Grass Roots** (129772) **11.15 FILM: The Owl** (976081)

S4C

Starts: **7.00am The Big Breakfast** (65826) **9.00 FILM: Nicholas Nickleby** (30642) **11.00 Fruity Stories** (9710) **11.30 Powerhouse** (7739) **12.00pm Ricki Lake** (75642) **12.30 Sesame Street** (76505) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (45518994) **1.15 Smot y Ci** (45513449) **1.30 FILM: The Long and the Short and the Tall** (18642) **3.30 Watercolour Challenge** (49) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (4) **4.30 Countdown** (8) **5.00 5 Pump** (6818623) **5.15 Ffeil** (3475975) **5.30 Pet Rescue** (20) **6.00 Newyddion 6** (421994) **6.10 Heno** (578046) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (987420) **7.25 garej** (182604) **8.00 Hawlio** (3555) **8.30 Newyddion** (2062) **9.00 Frasier** (6246) **9.30 Friends** (81791) **10.00 Brookside** (146710) **10.35 Ally McBeal** (937820) **11.30 FILM: Trop Belle Pour Toi** (290333) **1.15am Diwedd** (59224043)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (61352)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (T) (65826)
9.00 Nicholas Nickleby (1947, b/w) Classic Ealing version of Dickens's novel with Derek Bond in the title role, with Cedric Hardwicke and Sybil Thorndike. Directed by Alberto Cavalcanti (T) (30642)
11.00 Fruity Stories Britain's vanishing fruit varieties (r) (T) (9710) **11.30** Powerhouse (7739) **12.00** Sesame Street (75642)
12.30pm Light Lunch with guests Paul Daniels and Debbie McGee (r) (T) (19739)
1.30 Diane (1955) Costume drama starring Lana Turner, Roger Moore, Cedric Hardwicke. Diane de Poitiers falls in love with the son of a king. Directed by David Miller (T) (18642)
3.30 Watercolour Challenge from Carreg Cennen Castle, Wales (T) (49) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (4) **4.30** Countdown (T) (3509130) **4.55** Ricki Lake. Guests with relatives who have much older partners are confronted (r) (T) (5086333)
5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (20)
6.00 Party of Five (T) (978082)
6.50 Fresh Pop (729333)
7.00 News (T) and weather (6975)
8.00 The Italian Kitchen Ruth Rogers and Rose Gray make four soups and sample olive oil from the historic Tuscan Medici estate (T) (3555)
8.30 Brookside Will Mike's cover be blown? Can Mick help Gemma before it is too late? (T) (2062)



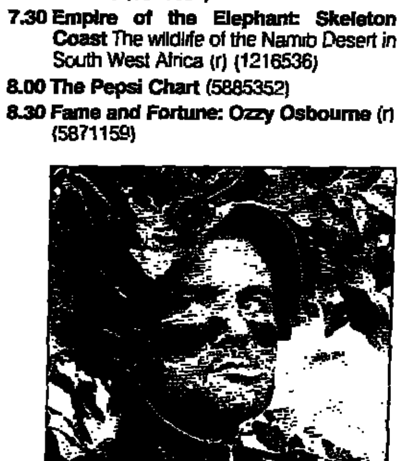
Dick Powell and Richard Seymour turn their attention to the toilet (9pm)

9.00 Designs on Your Loo Top industrial designers Richard Seymour and Dick Powell set out to redesign the lavatory (T) (2159)
10.00 Ally McBeal: One Hundred Tears Away Ally faces a Bar Association hearing to decide upon her emotional competence to practise law. With Calista Flockhart (T) (411536)
10.55 Cybill: Where's a Harpoon When You Need One? Cybill invites Maryann along on a cruise, to celebrate being away from Dick for four years (T) (281826)
11.25 Barking (2/6) Sketches by emerging comedians. (T) (135915)
12.00 Weekly Planet Live debate hosted by Jon Snow on alternatives to modern medicine. (58005)
1.30am Inside Out: One More Push Jackie Rotherham, a midwife and disabled mother, provides support for disabled women wishing to have a baby (r) (T) (6759005)
2.05 The Firefly (1937, b/w) Musical starring Jeanette MacDonald as a Spanish spy who falls in love with a French agent. Directed by Robert Z Leonard (25804208)
4.25 Gamesmaster (r) (T) (59919024)
4.50-5.55 Trans World Sport (r) (8270463)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt decoder** will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02** and **7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News and Sport (3073623)
7.00 WideWorld: The Living World (1/10) Maggie Philbin examines the origins of evolution (r) (T) (1163710)
7.30 Milkshake! (9455772) **7.35** Wind in the Willows (r) (4500642) **8.00** Havakazoo (3270604) **8.30** Dappledown Farm (r) (3279975) **9.00** Woodland Tales (r) (3293555) **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (r) (6578265)
10.20 Sunset Beach (T) (4451739) **11.10** Leeza: Outrageous Radio Stunts (6864333) **12.00** 5 News at Noon (3273791) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (T) (3810246) **1.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (1162081) **1.30** Sons and Daughters (3819517) **2.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (5872888)
2.30 Open House with Gloria Hunniford with special guest Ian Dury (8725401)
3.30 Hostages (1943, b/w) with Luise Rainer, Arturo de Cordova and William Bendix. Second World War drama about an underground movement coming to the aid of a group of people taken hostage by the Nazis. Directed by Frank Tuttle (1122994)
5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show: What's Your Achilles Heel? (5677772)
6.00 100 Per Cent (1296772)
6.30 Family Affairs (T) (1210352)
7.00 5 News (5876604)
7.30 Empire of the Elephant: Skeleton Coast The wildlife of the Namib Desert in South West Africa (r) (1216536)
8.00 The Pepsi Chart (5885352)
8.30 Fame and Fortune: Ozzy Osbourne (r) (5871159)



Bill Murray as Karl, the greenkeeper determined to get that gofer (9pm)

9.00 Caddyshack (1980) with Chevy Chase, Rodney Dangerfield, Ted Knight, Bill Murray and Cindy Morgan. An obnoxious property developer, desperate to be accepted by the members of an exclusive country club, challenges the president to a game of golf, which leads to comical but disastrous results. Directed by Harold Ramis (30026569)
10.50 The Jack Docherty Show (2751975)
11.30 Compromising Situations: The Casting Couch Erotic drama (4644333)
12.05am Major League Baseball (43675685)
4.40 Madman of the People (69255604)
5.05 Throb (16375208)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (3208376)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY 1

7.00am Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters (90536) **7.30** Games World (1546062) **7.45** Simpsons (97604) **8.15** Oprah (8390178) **9.00** Hotel (19401) **10.00** Another World (63505) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (88791) **12.00** Married with Children (44456) **12.30pm** M*A*S*H (9629307) **12.55** Special K Collection (96847371) **1.00** Geraldo (3044994) **1.55** Special K Collection (3854284) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (3548343) **2.55** Special K Collection (2442772) **3.00** Jenny Jones (3525772) **3.55** Special K Collection (9343623) **4.00** Oprah (28772) **5.00** Star Trek: Voyager (5688) **6.00** The Nanny (8371) **6.30** Married with Children (9623) **7.00** Simpsons (6517) **7.30** Simpsons (5807) **8.00** Stargate SG-1 (87913) **9.00** Outer Limits (74449) **10.00** Friends (94915) **10.30** Friends (16913) **11.00** Star Trek: Voyager (13064) **12.00** Nash Bridges (59192) **1.00am** Long Play

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800888 Each film costs £2.99 per viewing
SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) **The Fifth Element (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) **Beavis and Butthead Do America (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) **Star Trek: First Contact (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) **Private Parts (1997)**

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

5.00am Citizens' Band (1977) (20062) **8.00 Ladyhawke (1985)** (76468) **10.00 Runaway Car (1996)** (28130) **11.30 Invisible Dad (1997)** (40401) **1.00pm Citizens' Band (1977)** (50420) **3.00 Cocoon: The Return (1988)** (83565) **5.00 Invisible Dad (1997)** (12197) **7.00 Runaway Car (1996)** (13028) **9.00 Code Name: Wolverine (1996)** (43081) **10.30 When Saturday Comes (1996)** (59730604) **12.15am Rock and Roll Fantasy (1992)** (769173) **1.50 The Late Shift (1996)** (410163) **3.30 Americanski Blues (1995)** (173598)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

5.00am Easy Living (1937) (26604) **8.00 Terror in a Texas Town (1958)** (67710) **10.00 August (1995)** (34807) **12.00 Carrie (1952)** (57333) **2.00pm Terror in a Texas Town (1958)** (59130) **4.00 Easy Living (1937)** (1062) **6.00 August (1995)** (27420) **8.00 The Matchmaker (1997)** (81739) **10.00 Jade (1995)** (535623) **11.40 WEIRD World (1995)** (104197) **1.15am Generation X (1995)** (400579) **2.50 Ordinary Heroes (1986)** (817686) **4.25 Willy Fog: Journey to the Centre of the Earth (1996)** (134260)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Prisoner of Second Avenue (1974) (2248828) **6.00 The Trail of the Pink Panther (1982)** (2906888) **8.00 Honkytonk Man (1982)** (2901333) **10.00 Beverly Hills Cop (1984)** (6603791) **11.50 Bright Lights, Big City (1988)** (4979325) **1.40am White Nights (1985)** (69884802) **3.55 The Egg and I (1947)** (2079665)

TNT

9.00pm Diner (1982) (27164604) **11.00 A Night at the Opera (1935)** (81752536) **12.45am Our Mother's House (1967)** (72174821) **2.45 Diner (1982)** (86538192)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (5159842) **7.15** The Pavilion End (573604) **8.15** Sports Centre (4193772) **8.30** Racing News (37517) **9.00** Aerobics (51197) **9.30** Fastrax (56130) **10.00** Pool (76994) **12.00** Aerobics (31333) **12.30pm** Motor Sport (39555) **2.30** The Pavilion End (99474) **3.30** Rugby League Academy (38361) **4.30** Euro Tour Golf Weekly (7420) **5.00** Live Sunday League Cricket (2973284) **10.00** World Cup Phone-In — Live (960352) **10.45** Sports Centre (582333) **11.00** Snooker (97772) **1.00am** Sports Centre (2715043) **1.15** World of Super League (188802) **3.15** World Cup Phone-In (3046111) **4.00** Sports Centre (27605531) **4.15** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (7803468) **7.30** Sports Centre (5854604) **7.45** Racing News (5834197) **8.15** Fastrax (2146449) **8.45** Sports Centre (2117130) **9.00** Fish TV (52940811) **10.00** Pavilion End (7688159) **11.00** Sportrans (1912333) **11.30** Women's Golf Shoprite Classic (9070807) **1.30pm** Golf Extra (9491505) **4.30** Snooker (9089555) **6.30** The Winning Post Live (2021159) **8.30** Pool (7860772) **10.30** Golf Extra (3079826) **1.30am** Euro Tour Golf Weekly (7018043) **2.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Rugby League Academy (48623772) **1.00pm** Fish TV (48632420) **2.00** Superbouts (86716994) **3.00** Rugby Union Classics (40387081) **3.30** Major League Baseball (61991791) **5.30** Watersports World (46258975) **6.30** Euro Tour Golf Weekly (91957178) **7.00** Fish TV (27107555) **8.00** World of Super League (27187791) **10.00** Greatest Moments of Sport (12187352) **10.30** Dickie Davies' Sporting Heroes (86311888) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

6.00am World Cup Premiere (56710) **7.30** World Cup — Le Mix (3508772) **11.00** Rendez-Vous France 98 (20791) **12.00** World Cup — Le Mix (3005449) **4.00pm** Rendez-Vous France 98 (60772) **5.00** Speedworld (4799) **7.00** Tractor Pulling (29913) **8.00** World Cup Second Round Highlights (12343) **9.00** Boxing (25197) **10.00** Darts: World Championship (28284) **11.00** Speedworld (53913) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads (2239159) **7.30** Neighbours (2551517) **7.55** EastEnders (3153517) **8.30** The Bill (2331604) **9.00** The Bill (2355284) **9.30** Stay Lucky (3912178) **10.30** The Sullivans (2351468) **11.00** Dallas (8813913) **11.55** Neighbours (89622468) **12.25pm** EastEnders (7730666) **1.00** All Creatures Great and Small (7215333) **2.00** Dallas (6445655) **2.55** The Bill (5263401) **3.25** The Bill (9478449) **3.55** Pride and Prejudice (5236791) **4.55** EastEnders (9380197) **5.30** Wowfabgroovy (9984975) **6.00** All Creatures Great and Small (7235197) **7.00** Last of the Summer Wine (2774333) **7.40** Waiting for God (9752772) **8.20** Butterflies (8155081) **9.00** One Foot in the Grave (4908623) **9.40 FILM: The Fourth Protocol (1987)** (98573888) **11.55** The Bill (3051739) **12.25am** The Bill (3807647) **12.55** Paul Merton: The Series (9941869) **1.25** Spitting Image (2587734) **1.55** The Equalizer (9183442) **2.45** Shopping (34410531)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (9410913) **7.00** On the Buses (8230371) **7.30** Nearest and Dearest (8226178) **8.00** The Fenn Street Gang (2593265) **8.30** Mind Your Language (2592536) **9.00** Coronation St (2583888) **9.30** Emmerdale (5459569) **10.00** The Return of the Saint (8215062) **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (8235826) **12.00** Coronation St (2596352) **12.30pm** Emmerdale (1859505) **1.00** The Cuckoo Waltz (8239642) **1.30** The Army Game (2208046) **2.00** Within These Walls (8170081) **3.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (2156807) **4.00** Hawaii Five-O (2168842) **5.00** The Return of the Saint (7550517) **6.00** Emmerdale (5811284) **6.30** Coronation St (5802536) **7.00** Doctor at Large (7551246) **7.30** Doctor on the Go (5891420) **8.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (9323536) **9.00** The Professionals (9303772) **10.00** The Comedians (2597081) **10.30** Wheeltappers and Shunters Social Club (2573401) **11.00** Granada Men and Motors (2778178)



Sean Bean stars as a man who realises his dream of playing professional football (Sky Movies Screen 1, 10.30pm)

CARLTON SELECT (CABLE)

5.00pm Blockbusters (40364130) **5.30** Gridlock (91941617) **6.00** Byker Grove (91931130) **6.30** My Two Wives (91955710) **7.00** London Bridge (40384994) **7.30** Desmond's (91951994) **8.00** Switch On (40393642) **8.30** Goodnight Sweetheart (40389449) **9.00** The Orchid House (27101371) **10.00** The Darling Buds of May (27171130) **11.00** Tales of Sherwood Forest (65950081) **12.00** Just a Gigolo (27683005) **12.30am** The Comedy Company (49303376) **1.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Lamb Chop's Playalong! **6.30** Jungle Cubs **7.00** Disney's Football Fever **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa **9.00** Aladdin. The Series **9.30** Quack Pack **10.00** Microscopic Milton **10.05** Amazing Animals **10.30** Sesame Street **11.30** Winnie the Pooh **11.45** Tots TV **12.00** Little Hippo **12.10pm** Let's Wiggle! **12.15** Animal Shelf **12.30** Rosie and Jim **12.50** Bear in the Big Blue House **1.20** Winnie the Pooh **1.35** Chip 'n' Dale **2.00** Goof Troop **2.30** Jungle Cubs **3.00** Timon and Pumbaa **3.30** Brand Spanking New Doug **4.00** Pepper Ann **4.30** Recess **5.00** Smart Guy **5.30** Student Bodies **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00 FILM: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** **9.15** Touched by an Angel

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Zeo **6.30** Power Rangers Zeo **7.00** X-Men **7.25** Casper **7.35** Mortal Kombat **8.00** Goosebumps **8.25** Sam and Max **8.35** Beetleborgs Metallix **9.00** Masked Rider **9.30** Grimm's Fairy Tales **10.00** Pinocchio **10.30** Peter Pan **11.00** Oliver Twist **11.30** Huckleberry Finn **12.00** Gulliver's Travels **12.30pm** EekStravaganza **12.42** The Mouse and the Monster **12.54** Casper **1.06** Terrible Thunderlizards **1.18** Sam and Max **1.30** Samurai Pizza Cats **2.00** Eagle Riders **2.30** Conan the Adventurer **3.00** Fantastic Four **3.30** Donkey Kong Country **4.00** Ace Ventura **4.50** Casper **5.00** Goosebumps **5.25** Eerie, Indiana **5.50** Sam and Max **6.00** Goosebumps **6.25** Sweet Valley High **6.50** Home to Rent **7.00** Close

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula **6.30** The Littlest Pet Shop **7.00** Hey Arnold! **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Doug **8.30** Oscar's Orchestra **9.00** CBBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear etc **12.00** Rugrats **12.30pm** Blue's Clues **1.00** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Franklin **2.00** Papa Beaver **2.30** CBBC **3.30** Doug **4.00** Pippi Longstocking **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan & Kel **6.00** Sabrina **6.30** Alien Strange **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

7.00am Earthworm Jim **7.30** USA High **8.00** Saved by the Bell. The College Years **8.30** California Dreams **9.00** Hang Time **9.30** Heartbreak High **10.30** Echo Point **11.00** Ready or Not **11.30** Earthworm Jim **12.00** Sweat **12.30pm** Heartbreak High **1.30** Echo Point **2.00** Hollyoaks **2.30** It's in the Jeans **2.45** On the Make **3.00** Sweat **3.30** Ready or Not **4.00** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **4.30** Saved by the Bell: The College Years **5.00** Hollyoaks **5.30** California Dreams **6.00** Hang Time **6.30** Blast **7.00** USA High **7.30** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Crosswits **5.45** Family Fortunes **6.30** Catchphrase **7.15** Fifteen-to-One **7.55** The Crystal Maze **9.15** Strike It Lucky **10.00** 3-2-1 **11.15** Through the Keyhole **12.00** Sale of the Century **12.30am** Moonlighting **1.30** The Big Valley **2.30** Big Brother Jake **3.00** Snowy River: The McGregor Saga **3.50** Jeux Sans frontieres **5.00** Screenshop

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (8237159) **9.00** Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (4108352) **9.30** Cops (7225710) **10.00** Italian Stripping Housewives (2338517) **10.30** World Cup Undercover (2347265) **11.00 FILM: Phoenix the Warrior (1988)** (3419081) **1.00am** Beverly Hills Bordello (1386869) **1.30** Italian Stripping Housewives (3473289) **2.00** Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (3882802) **2.30** Cops (3801937) **3.00 FILM: Behind Convent Walls (1977)** (9177598) **5.00** The A-Team (7374717)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Sister, Sister (2623) **7.30** Roseanne (6791) **8.00** Grace Under Fire (1371) **8.30** Caroline in the City (7178) **9.00** Cybill (62130) **9.30** Ellen (78352) **10.00** Frasier (30604) **10.30** Cheers (49352) **11.00** Monty Python's Flying Circus (74975) **11.30** Barry Welsh is Coming (95517) **12.00** Nurses (57685) **12.30am** It's Garry Shandling's Show (19937) **1.00** Frasier (33753) **1.30** Cheers (48173) **2.00** Caroline in the City (70289) **2.30** Barry Welsh is Coming (62024) **3.00** Roseanne (20289) **3.30** Cybill (73376) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Quantum Leap (8588449) **9.00** PSI Factor: Chronicles of the Paranormal (8591913) **10.00 FILM: The Lawnmower Man (1992)** (2371710) **12.00** Sightings (7663685) **1.00am** Battlestar Galactica (4287918) **2.00** Friday the 13th (7591289) **3.00** Tales of the Unexpected (1800647) **3.30** Dark Shadows (5317579) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am The Joy of Painting **9.25** The Home and Leisure House **9.30** The Garden Show **10.00** Grassroots **10.30** In the Workshop **11.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing World **11.30** Homeтime **12.00** Our House **12.30pm** Home Again **1.00** A Cook's Journey **1.30** Furniture on the Mend **2.00** This Old House **2.30** Tool Time **3.00** Go Fishing **3.30** This Old House **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures II **4.30** Zoo Story **5.00** First Flights **5.30** History's Turning Points **6.00** Animal Doctor **6.30** Wild, Wild Reptiles **7.30** Disaster **8.00** Animal X **8.30** Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious World **9.00** Ultimate Guide **10.00** The Barefoot Bushman **11.00** Outlaws **12.00** First Flights **12.30am** Disaster **1.00** The Problem with Men **2.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Snakebite **7.30** Earthquake **8.00** Lions of the African Night **9.00** Invaders in Paradise **10.00** Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes **11.00** Eternal Enemies **12.00** Mysteries of the Neanderthals **12.30am** Out of the Stone Age **1.00** Close

TRAVEL (CABLE)

12.00 Reel World **12.30pm** On The Horizon **1.00** On The Loose In Wildest Africa **1.30** North Of Naples, South Of Rome **2.00** On Tour **2.30** The Great Escape **3.00** Innocent Abroad **3.30** Oceania **4.00** Whicker's World **4.30** Floyd On Oz **5.00** On The Loose In Wildest Africa **5.30** Worldwide Guide **6.00** North Of Naples, South Of Rome **6.30** On Tour **7.00** Reel World **7.30** On The Horizon **8.00** Go Portugal **8.30** The Flavours Of France **9.00** *Transasia* **10.00** The Great Escape **10.30** Floyd On Oz **11.00** Worldwide Guide **11.30** Oceania **12.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Battleline **4.30** Men in Crisis **5.00** The Changing Face of Britain **6.00** Ancient Mysteries **7.00** Biography: Joseph Stalin

CARLTON FOOD (CABLE)

9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Food for Thought **10.00** Feasts of the World **10.30** What's Cooking? **11.00** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.30** Kitchen College **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** A Year at Ballymaloe **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** From the Ground Up **2.00** Travels a la Carte **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Vin Ordinaire **3.30** Kitchen College **4.00** New Chefs on the Block **4.30** Red Hot 'n' Smokin'

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** Rolonda **9.50** Jerry Springer **10.40** The Young and the Restless **11.30** Brookside **12.00** Jimmy's **12.35pm** Living Issues **1.00** Rescue 911 **1.30** Ready, Steady, Cook **2.05** Rolonda **2.55** Living It Up **3.55** Jerry Springer **4.45** Tempest! **5.35** Ready, Steady, Cook **6.10** Jerry Springer **7.00** Rescue 911 **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Adrenalin Junkies **9.00 FILM: In My Daughter's Name** **11.00** Sex Life Down Under **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

6.30am Kalager Bao **7.00** Jaagran **7.30** Ghoomta Aaina **8.00** News **8.30** Buniyaad **9.00** Manabi **9.30** Out and About **10.00** Tara **11.00** The Low Cal Show **11.30** Kurukshetra **12.00** FILM **3.00pm** Hum Aapke Hain Woh **3.30** Daraar **4.00** Campus **4.30** Liberty **5.00** Chalo Cinema **5.30** Mr Mintoo **6.00** Banegi Apni Baat **6.30** All Time Hits **7.00** Yehi Hai Zindagi **7.30** Baat Ban Jaaye **8.00** News **8.30** Dastaan **9.00** Sehab Bahadur **10.00** Business **10.30** Amaanat **11.00** Purush Kshetra **12.00** Close



TENNIS 42-43
Ivanisevic's new image fails to mask old demons

SPORT

TOMORROW
Gary Neville on the showdown in St-Etienne



WEDNESDAY JULY 1 1998

Argentina deny Hoddle's team World Cup quarter-final place in shoot-out

England undone by penalty clause

Argentina 2
England 2
(aet: 2-2 at 90min)
(Argentina win 4-3 on penalties)

FROM OLIVER HOLT
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
IN ST-ETIENNE

Lynne Truss 46
Croatia triumph 45
Klinsmann confident 45
World Cup today 44



Ayala and Chamot, the Argentina defenders, can do nothing as Owen, with Scholes in support, puts England 2-1 ahead in their World Cup second-round tie last night. Photograph: Marc Aspland

HISTORY repeated itself last night when England were knocked out of the World Cup here in another heartbreaking penalty shoot-out. After David Beckham had been sent off a minute after half-time, the ten men of England had produced a performance of epic defiance to keep Argentina at bay and take this second-round match into extra time and the shoot-out.

But after David Seaman had given England hope when he saved Argentina's second penalty, from Hernan Crespo, misses from Paul Ince and, finally, David Batty, who saw his shot saved by Roa, ruined England's chances of avenging their 1986 quarter-final defeat and atoning for their elimination from Italia 90 at Germany's hands.

After Argentina had taken an early lead through Gabriel Batistuta, Owen won the penalty that allowed Alan Shearer to equalise and then scored a goal of breathtaking audacity to put his team ahead. But Argentina equalised on the stroke of half-time and Beckham's dismissal left England's ten men fighting an uphill battle as the game went into extra time.

England began nervously. Shearer nearly got on the end of a fierce cross-shot from Le Saux in the third minute, but when the ball went down to the other end, Argentina stunned them by winning a penalty. Batistuta overhit a pass to Simeone, but as the Argentina captain took the ball past Seaman and away from goal, the England goalkeeper brought him down, even though there appeared to be little danger. Seaman, so often the England hero, was booked for his misdeed. He nearly atoned when he guessed the right way for Batistuta's penalty, but it flew off his hands and bounced up into the net, the shot carried in by its sheer pace.

Within four minutes, however, England — and Owen in particular — had proved that they would be a match for their rivals. Single-handed, he brought his team back into the game just when Ortega and Batistuta appeared to be waltzing around England.

Owen created the equaliser in the tenth minute when he received the ball midway inside the Argentina half and set off for goal. He ran directly at Ayala and took the ball past him into the penalty area. Ayala brushed him as he went by, Owen tumbled to the floor and the referee pointed to the penalty spot. Shearer proved that anything Batistuta could do he could do better by dispatching his kick high to the right of the flailing Roa.

Six minutes later, before the memory of Owen's impudence had had time to fade, he was at it again. This time, he was released by a delicate pass from Beckham, a chip that reached him just inside the Argentina half. He set off for goal and went past Chamot. Ayala was next, but Owen ghosted past him, too, slanting his run from left to right before rifling his shot past Roa and high into the net.

For a while, England were unstoppable. Owen was brought down by Chamot as he hared down the right wing, a volley from Ince from 30 yards whistled just over the bar, and a cross from Le Saux was mis-hit by Scholes in front of goal.

Argentina were struggling now and, six minutes before half-time, England had a chance to extend their lead. Shearer rose majestically on the right-hand side of the area to nod a long ball across the Argentina back four, to where Scholes was running in at the far post. With only the goalkeeper to beat, the Manchester United midfield player could only direct his left-foot shot wide of Roa's left-hand post.

Reprieved, Argentina found new life and Ortega began to threaten again. A last-ditch tackle from Campbell rescued England three minutes before half-time when Lopez ran through, but then, with the first half in injury time, Argentina equalised. Adams and Campbell brought down Lopez on the edge of the England box and, with England preparing for a shot from Batistuta, Veron slipped a slide-rule pass through to Zanetti, who took one touch and hit a rising left-foot shot past Seaman high into the England net.

If England were dismayed by that misfortune though, worse was to come. The second half had hardly begun when Simeone clattered into the back of Beckham. The referee gave a foul, but then Beckham betrayed the lack of discipline that many have feared would be his Achilles' heel in this tournament. As he lay on the ground he flicked out his right boot at Simeone, and the Argentina midfield player fell theatrically to the floor right under the nose of the referee.

Simeone was shown the yellow card, but then Nielsen produced the red card for Beckham. His face was a picture of despair and contrition. To be sent off seemed harsh, but it was still an act of foolishness that earned it.

Soon after that, Argentina missed a clear chance to go ahead when Batistuta directed a free header wide, but England, too, could have gone into the lead when a blistering free kick from Shearer was pushed acrobatically over by Roa.

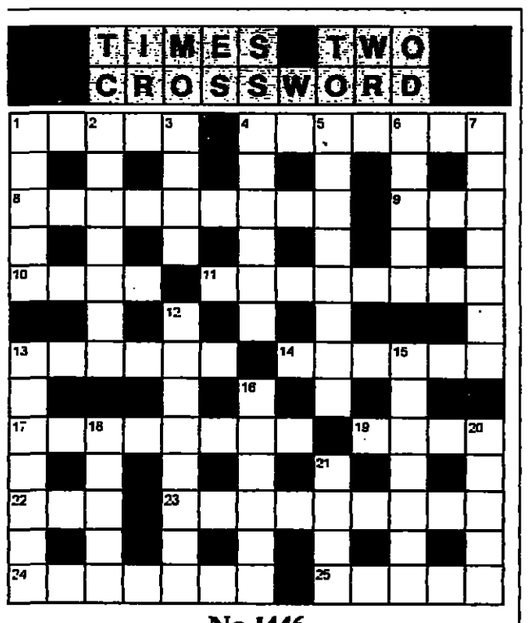
After that, England battened down the hatches. They withdrew Owen into midfield and, when Southgate came on for Le Saux 20 minutes from the end, they reverted to a back four. They managed to keep Argentina at bay and even raised brief hopes that they might snatch a winner when Owen went on another run. This time, though, he shot high into the stand.

ARGENTINA (3-3-2-2): C Roa (Real Mallorca) — J Chamot (Lazio), R Ayala (Napoli), N Vivas (Lugano) — J Zanetti (Internazionale), M Almeyda (Lazio), D Simeone (Internazionale, sub S Berti, (River Plate, 91min) — J Veron (Sampdoria), A Ortega (Valencia) — G Batistuta (Fiorentina, sub: H Crespo, Parma, 69), C Lopez (Valencia, sub: M Gallardo, River Plate, 69)

ENGLAND (3-5-2): D Seaman (Arsenal) — G Neville (Manchester United), A Adams (Arsenal), S Campbell (Tottenham Hotspur) — D Anderton (Tottenham Hotspur; sub D Batty, Newcastle United, 97), P Ince (Liverpool), D Beckham (Manchester United), P Scholes (Manchester United, sub, P Merson, Middlesbrough, 78), G Le Saux (Chelsea; sub: G Southgate, Aston Villa, 71) — A Shearer (Newcastle United), M Owen (Liverpool)

Referee: K Nielsen (Denmark)

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1446

ACROSS
1 Firm: the same all through (5)
4 Hand over; help (baby) to be born (7)
8 Nearest relative (4,2,3)
9 Father of Joshua; one in order (3)
10 Hacking implement; gather (fruit) (4)
11 Money through business (4,4)
13 Pardonable (sin) (6)
14 Act in accordance (6)
17 Given a jagged edge (8)
19 (Ship) staff (4)
22 Energy, vigour (*colloq.*) (3)
23 Subject of experiment (6,3)
24 *Weird* ones (*Macbeth*): *Three* of them (*Chekhov*) (7)
25 Giant, a son of Uranus (5)

DOWN
1 Dawn (3-2)
2 (Dead language) dictionary (7)
3 Cease to pursue; tiny liquid amount (4)
4 Victor's decree (6)
5 Formal midday meal (8)
6 Bribable (5)
7 Fugitive (7)
12 Vehement speech (8)
13 In relation to; facing (3-1-3)
15 Balcony wall (7)
16 Connected set (6)
18 Brother of Romulus; J C Harris's *Uncle* (5)
20 Conveyance; the teetotal on it (5)
21 Eliminating round (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1445
ACROSS: 1 Spiral 5 Indian 8 Gong 9 Talk back 10 Nether 12 Unco 15 Stop at nothing 16 Grey 17 Oberon 19 Cryonics 21 Dire 22 Cyprus 23 Styled
DOWN: 2 Projector 3 Rag 4 Literate 5 Idle 6 Debauchee 7 Arc 11 Happy hour 13 Concourse 14 Colossus 18 Digs 20 Ray 21 Dry

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Teen idol delivers sprint finish

Kevin McCarra on the thrilling impact of the England prodigy

Michael Owen is barely old enough to vote and far too young to brag, but how he vindicates the boasts that others make of him. Gary McAllister, the Scotland captain until his recent injury, called him the "best English player and the best player in England". That assertion sounded exorbitant when uttered, only a few weeks ago, but it is now at risk of looking banal.

His talent cannot have developed so fast in so short a time — it must be our appreciation of it that has been transformed. If McAllister was initially a lone voice, he is now the spokesman of a large party, whose membership may even include Glenn Hoddle, who did not include the Liverpool player in the starting line-up for the first two games.

In some quarters, that decision led to Hoddle being treated as a demon, but he could properly have been regarded as a devil's advocate. Perhaps, just perhaps, Owen's excellence was not yet ripe. There could be no more suitable means of establishing his readiness than this match against Argentina, a side who had not previously conceded a goal in the tournament and were widely regarded as favourites to win the World Cup.

Within moments of the kick-off, their defenders could vouch for Owen's uncanny maturity, since, in the third minute, it had forced Roberto Ayala to go sliding in on the seat of his pants to make a blocking tackle. Although England were still to fall behind, that moment was the kernel from which the must of the first-half action grew. For Argentina, the need of Ayala's intervention was ominous.

The Napoli player is a sweeper, detailed to linger behind two centre backs and act as a failsafe mechanism should an opponent break clear. Owen, however, often made it appear that Ayala was the first, and only, line of defence. The teenager's acceleration makes him dangerous in a variety of ways.

In the attack that brought England's penalty kick, Ayala was fearful of making the contact that can easily knock over a hurtling figure, but in his hesitation he could not quite avoid the faint brush that sent Owen to the ground. Too much, all the same, can be made of the Liverpool striker's prowess as a sprinter. If only that quality were required, scouts would haunt athletics fields rather than youth football matches.

Pace is a gift of nature and it is Owen's precocious ability to direct it that is really remarkable. His goal, in the sixteenth minute, was composed of high-speed poise as he raced away from Chamot, took a course round Ayala that still left him with a favourable angle to shoot, and then clipped the ball carefully clear of Carlos Roa, the goalkeeper.

The defenders' search for callow elements in his performance is futile. In the midst of England's best spell of the game, Vivas tried to move closer and loom over Owen. All he had contrived to do was allow the forward to use his nimbleness to spin away and deliver a shot that was deflected for a corner.

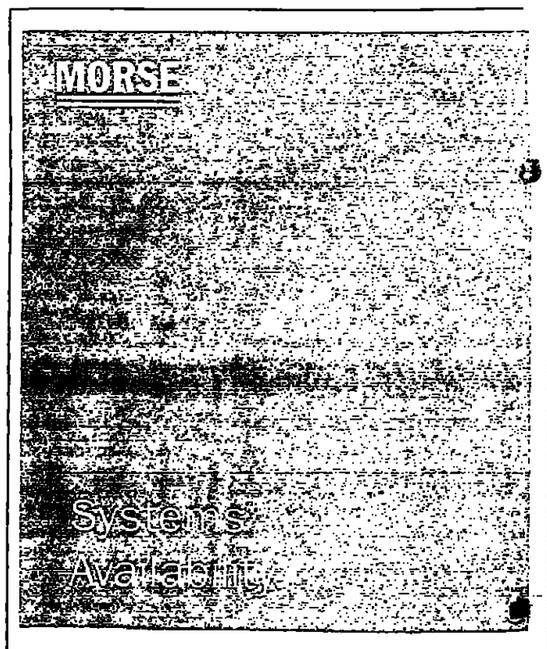
We should revel in the sights being unfurled before us. There is no actuary who can safely predict the progress of a single life, particularly that of a footballer. It is certain that Owen's understanding of the game will evolve, but it is just as sure that he will be introduced to the sombre knowledge of rehabilitation from injury.

Disappointments are inevitable, too, and with them the risk that he will be subject to the strange process that can make senior players more prone to nerves than the carefree newcomers. There is no reason whatsoever to be particularly morbid about Owen, but, no matter what befalls England, we ought to be selfish enough to relish him to the full as he is now, in his glorious youth.

GERRY PENNY



Owen is sent tumbling by a magnificent tackle from Ayala after another surging run



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